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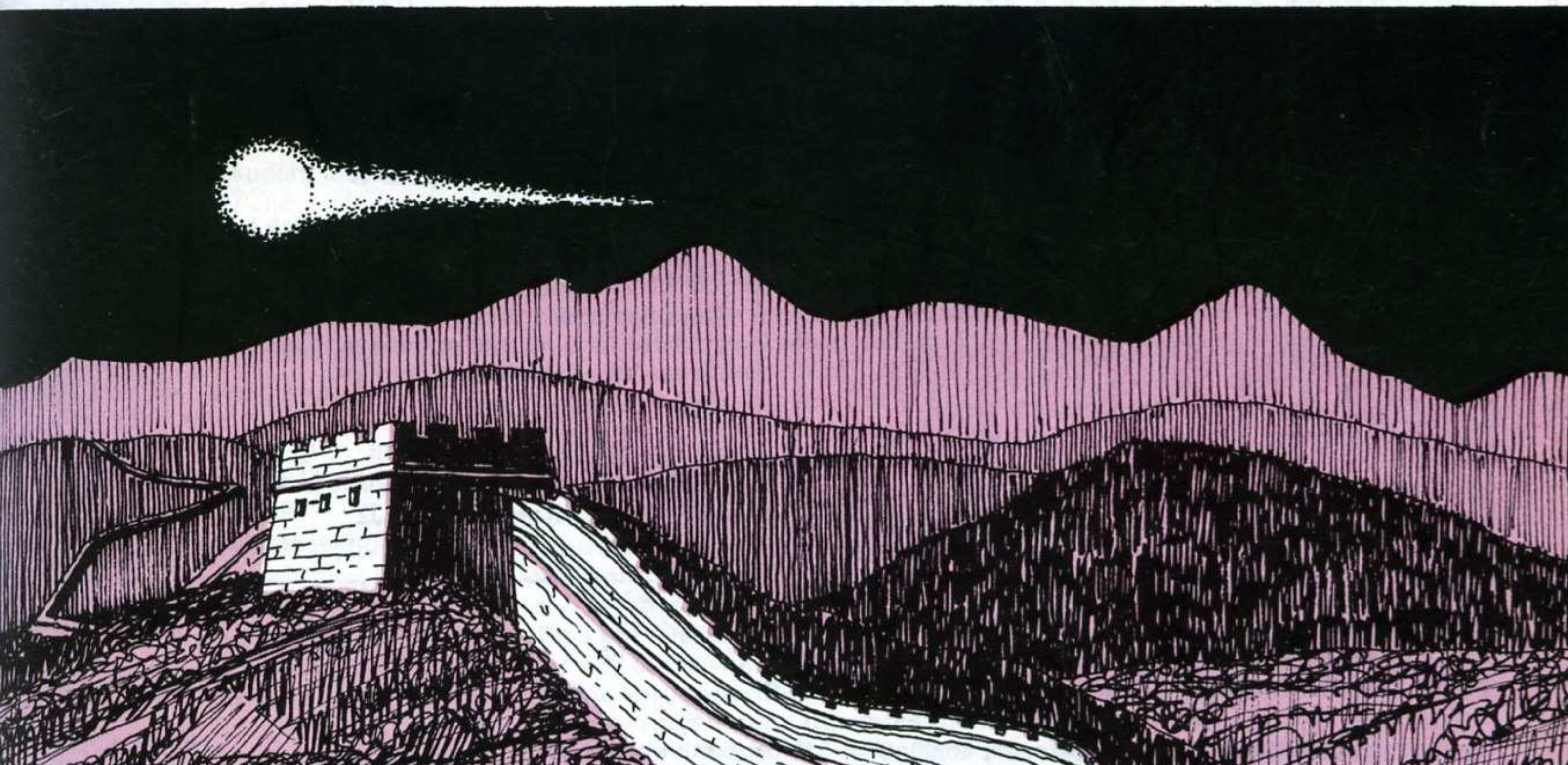

UFOs OVER CHINA

Establishment of China's UFO Society

See page 5

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

fsr

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

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IMPORTANT LESSON?

THERE was much talk during the period 1961 to 1963 of its being a ufological "dark age." It was true that as far as factual reports of UFOs were concerned Waveney Girvan, then Editor of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, had to struggle to maintain a balance of reports of substance, comment and speculation.

In a matter of only a few years it became apparent that "dark age" was a misnomer, for although, admittedly, things were quiet here in Britain and Europe and, to a degree, in the United States as well, major waves were in progress in South America. Indeed the paucity of reports which we were experiencing was due largely to a lack of communication, and we are now well aware of the remarkable manifestations of the phenomenon in those days. While we were complaining of the difficulty of retaining interest due to the recession in reports, it was all going on behind our backs: the landing of the one-eyed creatures at Belo Horizonte, Brazil; the "flying entity" on he railway at Resistencia, Argentina; the object which landed in a forest fire, and the entities seen to emerge from it, in Paraná, Southern Brazil; the object which landed on a road near Monte Maíz, Argentina, and the giant creatures therefrom which contronted a truck driver, and retaliated after he had drawn his pistol and fired at them; the night-long siege of a farmhouse at Trancas in Northern Argentina, and much more besides. The accounts of these events began to appear in FSR in 1965 after the phenomenon had been galvanised into furious activity throughout the rest of the world in 1964 and 1965.

The lesson which we learned in those days has come to mind recently in view of mutterings among interested ufologists about a return to the "dark ages." Patiently we wait for the volume of reports to build up, but while there may be a UFO flap going on in remote parts of the world, or unnoticed in not-so-remote parts, they are certainly not flooding in. In fact only a trickle of incidents comes to our notice, and this while communications are better now in 1980-81 than they were in 1962-63 — better because many more people are aware of the phenomenon and the way it manifests itself, and better too because radio and television links can be quite breathtaking in their performance, as evinced by the world-wide showing on December 31, 1978, of the New Zealand UFO film taken on December 31, 1978.

It would seem, at the time of writing these lines (December 9, 1980), that we do have something of a "dark age" settling around us. Strangely enough, however, there is another real and important lesson to be learned from the lack of events.

Over the years we have been told by those who know about such things that reports of UFO sightings, or encounters, are

1) caused by the stresses of modern life;
2) generated by the viewing by the public of movies or TV documentaries on UFOs;
3) a result of the reading by susceptible folk of reports in the press and popular magazines about the UFO experiences of others.

In view of the dissemination of such theories by critics, well-meaning or otherwise, and by debunkers, self-appointed or professional, it is put on record

that i) life could scarcely be more stressful than it is at present, with open warfare between Iraq and Iran while other neighbouring states eye each other balefully, with Afghanistan under Russian military occupation and torn by guerilla warfare, with workers' unrest seething in a Poland surrounded by the armies of the USSR, with famine stalking in the wake of sporadic fighting in Kampuchea and East Africa, with nuclear weapons lurking at every turn, with our environment being destroyed while we watch, with a desperate recession sweeping the world and unemployment escalating on a shattering scale all around us, with the horrifying, senseless killing of Beatle John Lennon, poet and man of peace, whose murder shocked and brought grief to millions of people around the world. Furthermore ii) an augmented version of the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* has recently completed a new general release in many countries, while iii) a magazine published in London, *The Unexplained,* has been reaching the public in the United Kingdom and abroad during the last four months or so. Among the features of this publication is a regular series on famous UFO reports. *The Unexplained* has been backed-up by a massive TV advertising campaign.

So, according to those who know about such things, the scene has been set, for many months, for the onset of a massive global wave of UFO reports. Where, we may ask, are those reports?

DID FLYING SAUCERS LAND AT BROADLANDS?

Alleged encounters on the Estate of Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

Desmond Leslie

THIS story has had to remain untold until now for obvious reasons. It was taken out of the front page of the *Sunday Graphic* to protect Lord Mountbatten from the ridicule he might well have suffered in the anti-UFO climate of the fifties. Now that he is dead I think the facts can be revealed without hurting anyone's reputation.

I cannot give the exact dates, but I believe the close encounter took place in the mid, or late fifties. Some while later I managed to locate the contactee who gave me his full story, provided I did not publish it during Lord Mountbatten's lifetime.

The facts are these: an ex-army NCO, Sgt. Briggs, was occasionally employed to do odd jobs and repairs at Broadlands, the Mountbatten home at Romsey, in Hampshire. There are two avenues to the house; one approaching the portico direct, and the other approaching it at right angles, passing a small dell, or depression, about 100 yards from the house. Sgt. Briggs was on his way to work along this second avenue on a day when a light fall of snow had covered Hampshire. This proved to be of some importance, as we shall see.

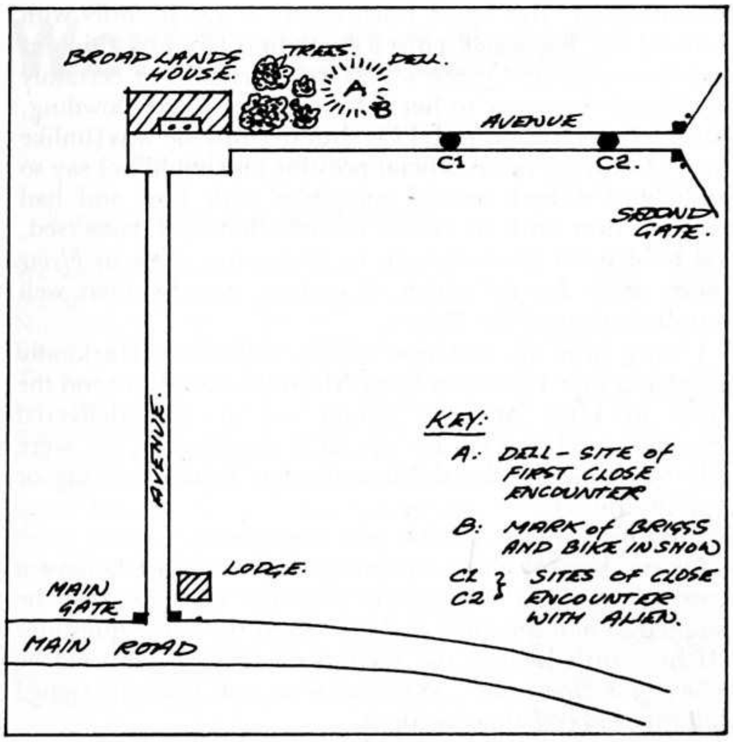
Suddenly, he said he noticed a largish disc-shaped flying object descending in front of him, slightly to the right, and over the dell. He was riding or wheeling a bike; wheeling, I believe, because the ground was slippery. However he went forward to investigate, still clutching his bike, and noticed the object, which he estimated to be between 40 and 60 feet in diameter, had stopped and was hovering directly over the dell, 30 to 50 feet in the air. Then, a trap door opened, or a portion of the underside seemed to detach itself, and float down towards the ground. On it stood a "man", about 5ft 6ins tall with fair, or silvery, hair, and wearing "blue overalls" — or a close fitting garment. The man looked perfectly normal, and continued his descent until he was almost at ground level. Then, seeing Mr. Briggs, he appeared to change his mind and retreated into the object. Briggs noticed that the platform on which the man stood was suspended from the craft by a long metal rod or piston, and it was this which had raised and lowered it along with its blue-clad passenger.

Since this encounter we have had quite a few more involving silvery or golden haired men in close fitting blue garments. There were the Roestenbergs, Mrs. Gerald Miles (Pixy Marchmont), and the famous case during a missionary service described at length by Dr. Allen Hynek in *The UFO Experience** along with the late Dr. Menzel's predictably silly debunking by clumsy misuse of the Dishonest Subjunctive. These events came after Briggs's case, and he had never even heard of them.

At this point it is assumed the occupants seemed to get worried about Briggs who was by now, bike and all, standing almost directly below the hovering. The Green Light "cow catcher", or safety device, apparently came into action, "paralysing" Briggs, and knocking him and his bike flat on the ground, from which position he was unable to move until the UFO went away; which it did quite shortly.

This, I think, is the first example of the Green Light which paralyses, and whose purpose seems merely to stop people or animals getting hurt in the direct down-blast or force-field, or whatever it is, that comes down when the UFOs go up. Anyway, Briggs arose, unharmed but shaken, and continued to Broadlands House where he went about his duties.

* [And before that in FSR's Special Issue No. 4 *UFOs in Two Worlds* (published 1971) in which the Rev. William Gill's Papuan experience was described in full detail by the head of the Mission, the Rev. Canon Norman Crutwell — ED]



Probably nothing more would have happened, had not the Mountbatten chauffeur, who was friendly with Briggs, noticed his pallor and said to him; "You look as if you've had a shock!" or words to that effect.

Briggs felt he could trust his friend, and began his story with the now standard "You're never going to believe this but. . ."

Instead of laughing, the Mountbatten chauffeur listened quietly, and with growing interest. At the conclusion he said: "You must tell 'the Boss' this. He's interested in these things."

Briggs protested. The chauffeur insisted.

The end of it was that the chauffeur went and spoke to Lord Mountbatten, who had Briggs brought to him, sat him down, and asked for a blow by blow account of the incident.

Now we come to the bit that just could not be published until now, for it was stated that Lord Mountbatten produced a number of UFO photographs and asked Briggs to study them closely and try to identify the one he'd just seen. To encourage him he told him not to be ashamed, nor to feel foolish, because "we know about these things and are very interested in them." Those are the words Briggs related to me as spoken by Lord Mountbatten.

So Mr. Briggs, being a good soldier, did just that. He examined all the photos, and then took Lord Mountbatten to the site of the encounter. Here, his lordship became really interested, for the snow in the dell had melted in a perfect circle, exactly below the space occupied by the UFO, added to which the marks were plainly to be seen where Briggs had fallen with his bike. The outline of his back has been clearly imprinted in the snow, with some force, as if he'd had a heavy fall or had been pushed violently backwards.

I understand that Lord Mountbatten then took Mr. Briggs back to the house, which was only about 100 yards away and just visible from the dell, and invited him to write out a statement. His secretary then made *seven* copies, all of which Mr. Briggs and Lord Mountbatten signed. He was told to keep one of them for himself. This he produced for me and I read it very carefully. What interested me was Lord Mountbatten's own statement which said in effect: "I have personally investigated the above claim by Mr. Briggs and I believe it to be true and correct." (Signed) "Mountbatten of Burma."

Then I was shown another document, — a letter to Mr. Briggs from the then Editor of the *Sunday Graphic* deeply regretting they'd had to kill the story (it had been due for the front page). Briggs had been offered, I seem to remember, £180 for his tale, which was a lot of money to a working man in those days. The Editor ended by saying what a marvellous story it was, and what a shame they'd had to change their minds about printing. it.

So that was it — the Mountbatten near-CEIII. But more was to come. Meanwhile I tried to make a character assessment of Mr. Briggs. Lord Mountbatten apparently considered him a very reliable, sober, unimaginative man, not given to fantasy. My own feelings during the time I spent with him were much the same. A good honest down-to-earth sort of a fellow who'd had an extraordinary experience which he could not explain.

* * * * *

I thought that was to be the end of it when an odd thing happened. Mr. Briggs suddenly turned and looked at me closely, before saying: "I think I'll tell *you* something which I never told to a living soul."

"Why me?" I asked. "Why not 'the Boss?' "

"I don't know. I'm not sure 'the Boss' would believe me."

"Go ahead. Tell me."

"Promise you won't write this while he's still alive?"

"I promise."

Then followed the tale of Sgt. Briggs' second close encounter and voluntary abduction. Why he should tell me and no one else I cannot quite understand. Nor do I find the motivation of the aliens easy to fathom.

The following day, while cycling to work along the same avenue, he stated he met the blue-clad alien standing in the middle of the road. His expression was friendly, and he signalled the ex-army sergeant to dismount. He offered his hand, which Briggs took, a trifle too strongly it seems, for the alien winced and asked him in plain English to be gentler saying: "We are not as strong as you. Please be careful."

The hand was very soft, said Briggs, like a baby's hand, delicate and not at all bony. Briggs said he stumbled some kind of apology, and was led to the grounded space craft. Now I cannot recall clearly at this distance in time whether the UFO had come down in the same dell near the house, or whether on this occasion it was stated it had chosen a more secluded location where it could not be observed either from the avenue or the house. I believe it was the latter.

Mr. Briggs said he was invited aboard, and was asked to sit on a chair or seat in a small compartment boasting a single triangular window. From his description, it sounded like the semi-triangular windows on the *Caravelle* aircraft — which had not been built at that time. Again, I believe that Briggs felt the conversation to be mental in nature. He said he heard the words in his head in the

manner that has since become all too familiar on these occasions.

He said he was asked if he'd like to take a trip. He decided he was in friendly hands and that he would. On being asked if there was anywhere in particular he wanted to go, he said (using plain language, not telepathy) that when he was with the army in Egypt he'd seen the Pyramids and had always wanted to see them again. I understand his request was granted. Indeed he said that after a very short flight — about ten minutes — there were the Pyramids of Gizeh right outside his little window. But was it a window?

"I was able to see them **from above and from the side at the same time,"** he told me, extremely puzzled.

I asked him if perhaps it was some kind of long range viewing device and not a window (the thought had crossed my mind of two signals coming in from two mini-UFOs or "Betz balls," one from the side and from above, and being superimposed on the viewing screen.

He was sure it was a window. It looked like a window, and things outside looked as they should through a window. It was just this two angles at once which had him really confused. (Are there any other cases like this for comparison?)

Mr. Briggs was alone in his small compartment during the trip which ended quite soon. He thinks he was only away from Broadlands about half an hour. Then came the most extraordinary statement of all. He claimed that just before returning him to ground, the aliens said: "If Lord Mountbatten met us *he could change the world."*

This seemed totally idiotic. If they *wanted* to meet Lord Mountbatten, why didn't they? Why not send Briggs off at the double to fetch him? Why land only 100 yards from the house and then go away again? Why not land under the Study windows, or on the front steps if Mountbatten's celestial briefing was the object of the operation? Why on earth bother to deal with Briggs — who was only confused and rather frightened?

I've given this enigmatic sentence a lot of thought over the years of silence. Did he say it in such a way as to mean: "If *only* Lord Mountbatten would meet us, he could change the world!" Or did they at that juncture have no intention of directly contacting so famous a personage, but had decided to test out his reaction via Briggs? The words, or thought-message, would then have been pitched differently, as a remark in passing like: "You know, if it was Mountbatten we were to meet (and implied that he would then speak about it) it would certainly change things on earth."

I feel that is the more likely assessment.

A third possibility is that the remark implied: "If we *were* to meet Lord Mountbatten and if we *were* to instruct him in our arts and ways he could certainly change the world." (The implication being that the time was not yet right for such an ambitious project.)

Perhaps the reader may come up with something better? I only know that at the time it somewhat shook my belief in the whole business, making the aliens seem rather stupid at first interpretation, which I now believe was a wrong one. Briggs himself probably did not get the full nuance. He was, as I have said, a very nice, ordinary army sergeant, not given to subtleties.

My next problem was what to do with all this information. I felt it should be given to Lord Mountbatten. But how? Fortunately I was friendly with General Sir Frederick (Boy) Browning whom I think at that time was the Queen's Private Secretary, or certainly an official very near to her. He was, like Lord Dowding, extremely interested in UFOs, but because he was (unlike Lord Dowding) in an official position, he could not say so publicly. I'd had several meetings with him and had supplied him with as much information as I possessed, and he'd been good enough to praise my work in *Flying Saucers Have Landed* which, I gather, was by then well thumbed around the Palace.

I rang him up and told of my dilemma. He kindly suggested that I write to Lord Mountbatten, but send the letter to him, and he would see it was delivered personally. This way, by use of a third party, we were able to exonerate Lord Mountbatten from receiving or replying direct.

I did get a reply. And it was very direct.

Of the second close encounter — he didn't believe a word of it! That's what the General told me, and he laughed. Then together we both asked the same question: "If he didn't believe the second encounter, why did he believe the first one?" We'd all seen and read his signed statement about that incident.

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World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

Republic of China

Surge of interest in UFO reports

We learn from a headline carried by the *Beijing Wanbao* (Peking Evening News) of November 28, 1980, of the **Establishment of China's UFO Society**. The full text of the report (we apologise for the quality of the photostat reproduction of the original) has been translated by **Gordon Creighton**.

"Have you ever seen a visitor from space? What in fact are these mysterious flying objects which people describe as being like saucers?

"Very recently a technical study group has been set up, the Chinese UFO (Flying Saucer) Research Society, to handle the investigation and analysis of all kinds of unidentified flying objects, and it has received the recognition of the Chinese Society for the Study of the Future, and has been accepted as an affiliate to the latter.

"At present the UFO Research Society has over 300 members distributed throughout 24 provinces and towns, and autonomous areas of China. As soon as it had been set up, the UFO Research Society at once plunged into the task of collecting reports of UFO sightings, and of collating and analysing all the material. To date they have received over 100 sighting reports from within China."

Credit, and thanks for sending the Chinese text, to **Yusuke J. Matsumura**, Director of CBA International, Yokohama, Japan.

中国UFO(飞碟)
研究协会成立

本报讯　你见过天外来客吗？那个被人称为象碟子一样的神秘飞物到底是什么？最近，一个从事各种不明飞物的调查、分析、探讨、研究的学术团体，中国UFO(飞碟)研究协会成立，已得到中国未来研究会的承认，并成为该会的团体会员。

目前协会已有会员三百余人，分布于全国二十四个省市自治区。协会成立后，马上投入了UFO目击报告的收集、整理、分析和理论探讨等工作。现已收到国内目击报告一百余份。

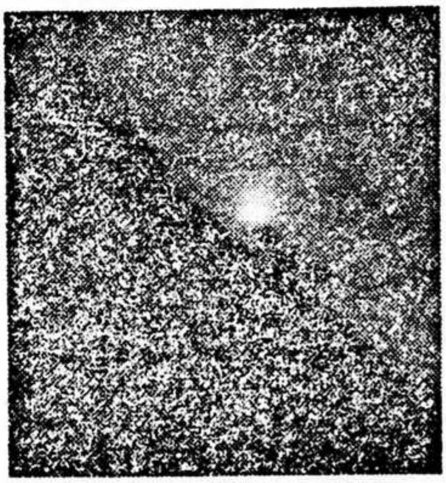
（雨　村）

北京晚报

我国的第一张UFO照片

编辑同志：

八月二十三日我们三个同志去昌平沟崖游玩，当晚露宿在山谷之中。第二天4时8分左右，我们正在看天空中的星星，透过不很浓密的树叶，从山的轮廓线露出一个泛白光的东西。确切地说这



Reproduction of headlines, part of Chinese text and the photograph, from the *Beijing Wanbao* of November 4, 1980.

First newspaper report of a UFO photograph

The establishment of the Chinese UFO Research Society, as reported in the *Beijing Wanbao*, no doubt received publicity after this and the following items, also sent to us by **Yusuke J. Matsumura**, who kindly provided a translation of the first report which came from UPI teletype No. ZCZC HTA224 XH242 NX 1 00 HUP NRS R1 received in Tokyo, datelined Peking, November 5, 1980:—

"Two campers near the Great Wall saw a bright unidentified flying object and took a photograph of it, the first ever made in China of a UFO,* a Peking newspaper reported Wednesday.

"The two campers sleeping out in the open near the Great Wall and the historic Ming Tombs said they saw a UFO over the north of Peking at 4:08 a.m. on August 23, 1980.

"In a letter to the Peking Evening News (Beijing Wanbao), they said they saw an object, possibly ringed, that emitted white light. The object appeared to have a darker core, and was apparently revolving on an axis, they said.

"The campers, Xin Seng and Bi Jiang, said the object moved farther away and then closer for half an hour, but they heard no noise.

"The newspaper printed a photograph showing a moon-like object, with what appeared to be protusions around the middle. It hovered just above the side of a slope. The newspaper's editor said the film was received undeveloped. The newspaper processed the film and made the print of the first photograph of a UFO in China.

"Although Chinese scientists have expressed an interest in the study of UFOs they have always based their discussions on overseas reports. UFO sightings, if they ever occured, had until now gone unreported in the mass media."

**[We feel our heading to this item is a little more cautious! — ED]*

Build-up of a UFO wave?

In the English-language edition of the Tokyo newpaper *Mainichi Daily News* of November 12, 1980, we read how —

"What are commonly known in other countries as unidentified flying objects (UFO) have been observed by the Chinese people on more than 100 occasions, according to a Shanghai magazine.

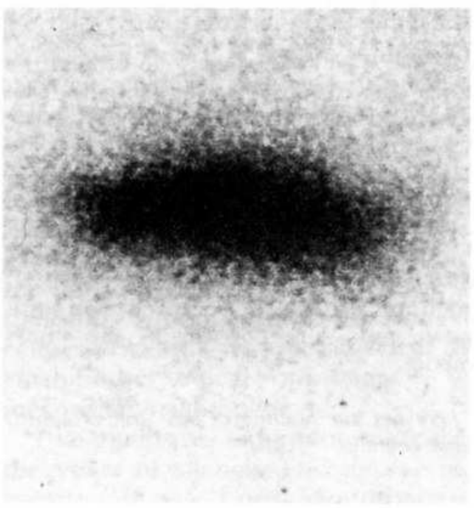
"The *Nature Magazine* said people in 15 provinces, cities and autonomous regions have sighted the UFOs, most of them round-shaped pans or balls emitting silver glare in the daytime and orange light at night."

Credit: **Yusuke J. Matsumura**

A UFO photo from the past

Our correspondent, Mr. Matsumura, writes to inform us that 18 years ago his

CBA International magazine published what they claimed to be the first UFO photographs taken in China. He states that his colleague visiting China at that time was a Chinese merchant living abroad. Again we apologise that our reproductions are taken from photostats. The original caption is appended.



"UFO over People's China!

"A strange object hovers over the outskirts of Kaifeng, Hounang province, China mainland, on the morning of October 28, 1961, watched by several people. The object appeared low in the sky and occasionally moved slowly and sometines was almost stationary. They stopped work and gazed upwards, when Chang Ching-lai, a young engineer, managed to snap a few pictures with a camera. They watched it for about 7 minutes, until it disappeared out of sight."

UFO Fever!

The English-language edition of the Tokyo *Mainichi Daily News* of Saturday December 6, 1980, carried a UPI item from Peking which reported thet:—

"The official *Xinhua* news agency said Thursday that people in all walks of life have been gripped by curiosity toward unidentified flying objects.

" 'Sightings of these intriguing phenomena are reported in the Chinese press from time to time,' it said.

" 'UFOs have long captured the imagination of the West, and they are arousing the interest of increasing numbers of people in China as well,' it said."

"The agency said some 300 'ufologists' have organized themselves into China's first academic society investigating the strange blips of lights dashing across the sky. The society, whose members include workers, students, teachers, journalists, doctors, and researchers, is headquartered in Wuhan in central China.

"It has branches in Peking, Shanghai, and the provinces of Guangdong, Sichuan, Shanixi, Shaanxi, Hubei and Guangxi, the agency said.

"The society has even come out with a journal called *UFO Exploration* which reports on sightings in China and abroad.

"The head of the organization is a 26-year-old student in astrophysics.

"Research and discussions on UFOs from the points of view of physics, astronomy, technology, philosophy and psychology have been conducted, *Xinhua* said.

"There has been an outburst of UFO reports in the Chinese press in the past few months following years of silence on the subject.

"The popular *Peking Evening News* last month carried a photograph, reputedly the first taken in China of a UFO.

"Newspapers in Tianjin have also reported sightings of UFOs off the coast."

Credit: **Yusuke J. Matsumura**

Sweden

Humanoid visitation at Västervik

The following report, taken from *AFU Nyhetsblad* No. 19, of April-September 1980 (see the article on the Imjärvi skiers elsewhere in this issue of FSR) is based on a report from the newspaper *Västerviks-Tidningen*, edition of September 22, 1980:—

"The latest issue of the Swedish UFO magazine *UFO-Information*[1] features a story about Lilli-Ann Karlsson, a young girl from Västervik[2] who on the night between December 3 and 4, 1979, experienced something out of the ordinary on the Brevik Hills, a recreation area of the town. What she saw paralysed and shocked her.

"Lilli-Ann (whose surname is now Thorsson, and who lives in Linköping) tells how she — at one o'clock in the night — felt the urge for a walk before going to sleep. Being a moonlit night she intended to walk around the Brevik Hills, directly behind her place of living at Langrevsgatan 43.

"She was walking with her hands in her jacket pockets and looking down at the ground. As Lilli-Ann suddenly raised her eyes she stopped, paralysed. Ahead she spotted a luminous object hovering about one metre above the ground. She felt herself observed, and soon two creatures came around from behind the object. They were tall like human beings, about 180cms, but much thinner.

" 'I couldn't hear it, but in a strange way I *sensed* that they were discussing my person. I felt ridiculous in their presence, but suddenly I heard a voice beside me saying I shouldn't be afraid.'

"The aliens went up to her and one of them gave Lilli-Ann its hand. She saw something in the hand, like a bar of chocolate. She didn't move from her spot, however, and did not raise her arms either.

"The creatures continued to talk among themselves and after a while they returned to their vehicle. They disappeared behind it just as they had appeared. Lilli-Ann noticed a weak cloud of smoke coming from the object. Then, all of a sudden, the object was gone. She cannot describe how this occurred.

"At the same monent the paralysis discontinued, and she could move freely. Crying, she ran to her apartment. She was close to collapse when she arrived home. Her friend confirmed that she behaved in a very strange way.

"On one of the following days she visited the place of the encounter in the company of a local inhabitant, who is a ufologist,[3] to see if there were traces left by the object. No traces, like depressed or burnt grass, were found.

"Lilli-Ann made a sketch of her sighting as well as taking notes.* She thought the creatures were comletely white and velveted. No facial features, but large ears. The experience may have lasted about five minutes. The creatures didn't seem to have any intention of frightening her. She rather felt as if someone was laughing at her expense, and she felt "ridiculous" in the company of the strangers.

Notes:

1. UFO-Information, Box 16, S-596 00 Skänninge, Sweden. Issue nr 4/1980 pages 12 and 10.
2. Västervik is a small town on the Swedish east coast (57° 45'N 16° 38'E).
3. The article in *UFO-Information* further states that Lilli-Ann's brother knew a local ufologist — Tor Wiklund — who conducted the investigation and wrote the report for *UFO-Information*.

**[We do not have a copy of the sketch — ED]*

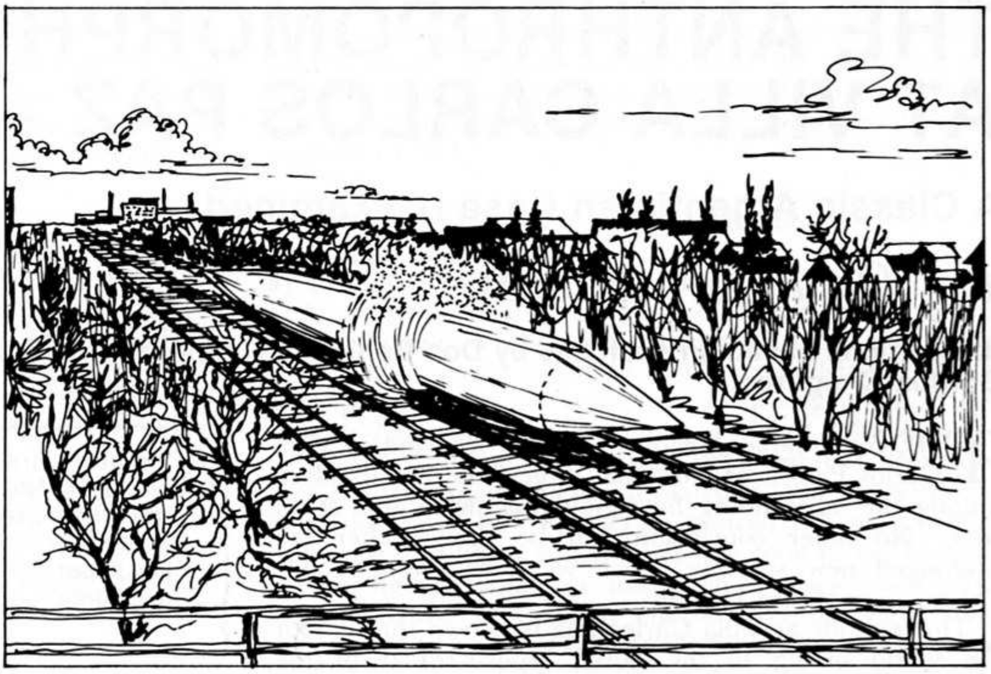
Denmark

Low-level 'cigar'

The following account is a précis translation, from the original Danish report, made by **Gordon Creighton**:—

A lady named Aase Trautner, residing at Balles Gard 20, Arhus, in Denmark, has reported to the Danish UFO Study Group, FUFOS, that on March 11, 1975, at 1.30 p.m., as she was travelling in a taxi over the Fredericsbro (Frederick's Bridge) in Arhus, she looked down towards the railway tracks below and, to her great astonishment, beheld the craft portrayed in the accompanying drawing based on the artist's reconstruction as published in FUFOS's journal, *UFO-Aspekt*, Vol. 11, No. 3, (June 1979).

The witness says it was a fine sunny day, with no wind. Her account goes: "Down below, on the right-hand side as we passed over the bridge, I saw a 'machine' floating along at treetop-level. It was a long, narrow, dull silver-coloured and cigar-shaped craft, with pointed ends. It seemed to be drifting along, entirely silently. Around its middle there was a dense cluster of beams of light shooting out, as though rotating around it at high speed. The rays from it met those of the sun and it threw off pale red and pale blue sparks. Just as the object neared the bridge, it suddenly vanished.'



Our artist's impression of the scene by Fredericsbro in Arhus, based on the FUFOS artist's reconstruction of the event.

The witness estimated the length of the craft at between three and five metres, and she thought it was moving at about three or four metres below the level at which her taxi stood on the bridge. She was totally convinced that what she had seen was a space-craft.

The Danish Study Group have put out enquiries in the hope of discovering whether any other people in Arhus saw anything at the time and date in question.

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THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (f.1962) continues to publish six lively journals a year, investigations UK reports, operates a library service, holds monthly lectures, and is co-ordinating the 2nd London International UFO Congress, 24-25 May 1981. Please send S.A.E. for details of membership, meetings and publications to: Miss Wood, 6 Cairn Avenue, London W5 5HX.

UFO INTERNATIONAL are making available their 1977/78/79 UK Sighting Report Catalogue and Statistical Tables. Prices (incl. p&p): Catalogue £3, Tables £1. Remittances to Mr. A. Parsons, 160 Courtney Rd., Kingswood, Bristol.

FOR SALE: *Behind the Flying Saucers* by F. Scully (Gollancz edition, 1950), one copy — £30. Bidwell, Devlon, Ilsington, Newton Abbot, Devon.

THE ANTHROPOMORPHIC ENTITY AT VILLA CARLOS PAZ — Part 1

A Classic Argentinian Case re-examined

Dr. Oscar A. Galíndez

Illustrations based on sketches by Don Benjamín Galíndez Senr. Translation from Spanish by Gordon Creighton.

This story first appeared in Flying Saucer Review Volume 14, No. 5 (September-October 1968) as one of three items presented in my article "Strangers about the House." That version depended entirely on newspaper reporting, so this new and in-depth investigation is very welcome.

CHARLES BOWEN

THE remarkable phenomenon that occurred at Villa Carlos Paz, near Córdoba, Argentina, has its place among the outstanding humanoid manifestations of all time. No other conclusion can be drawn after the prolonged new scrutiny which we have given to this "classic" in World Ufology.

This episode at Villa Carlos Paz is known throughout the world owing to the initial reports of it in the newspapers and magazines of Argentina, but the various accounts of the case that were disseminated around the world have been mere repetitions of the sundry original Argentine newspaper versions. Consequently, up to the present date, to the best of our knowledge, no serious ufological analysts or groups either inside Argentina or abroad have made a study of it.

For this reason, and also because we have been conscious of the need to publish, as and when a suitable opportunity might offer, all this fresh corroborative material gathered by our organisation (CADIU) on the site, we have thought it right to set it down now in all its detail, confident as we are that, in doing so, we shall have rescued from oblivion, for the UFO researchers of the world, one of the most notable cases in the whole gamut dealing with this problem with which we are all concerned.

The main lines of our enquiry were carried through in a number of stages, and this enabled us to assemble a formidable mass of documentation. All the principal interviews with the key figure in the story, Senorita María Elodia Pretzel, and the investigations now embodied in the following article, were carried out by my Father, Sr. Benjamín Galíndez, President of CADIU, and by myself, in my capacity as (current) Secretary of CADIU.

The present article has been submitted to Senorita Pretzel for her approval and its contents may therefore be taken as a truthful rendering of her story. All other versions previously current and diverging from this one should consequently now be discarded.

I. The Scene of the Happening

The town of Villa Carlos Paz is one of Argentina's most important tourist centres. It is exceptionally well endowed as regards routes and hotels and possesses numerous

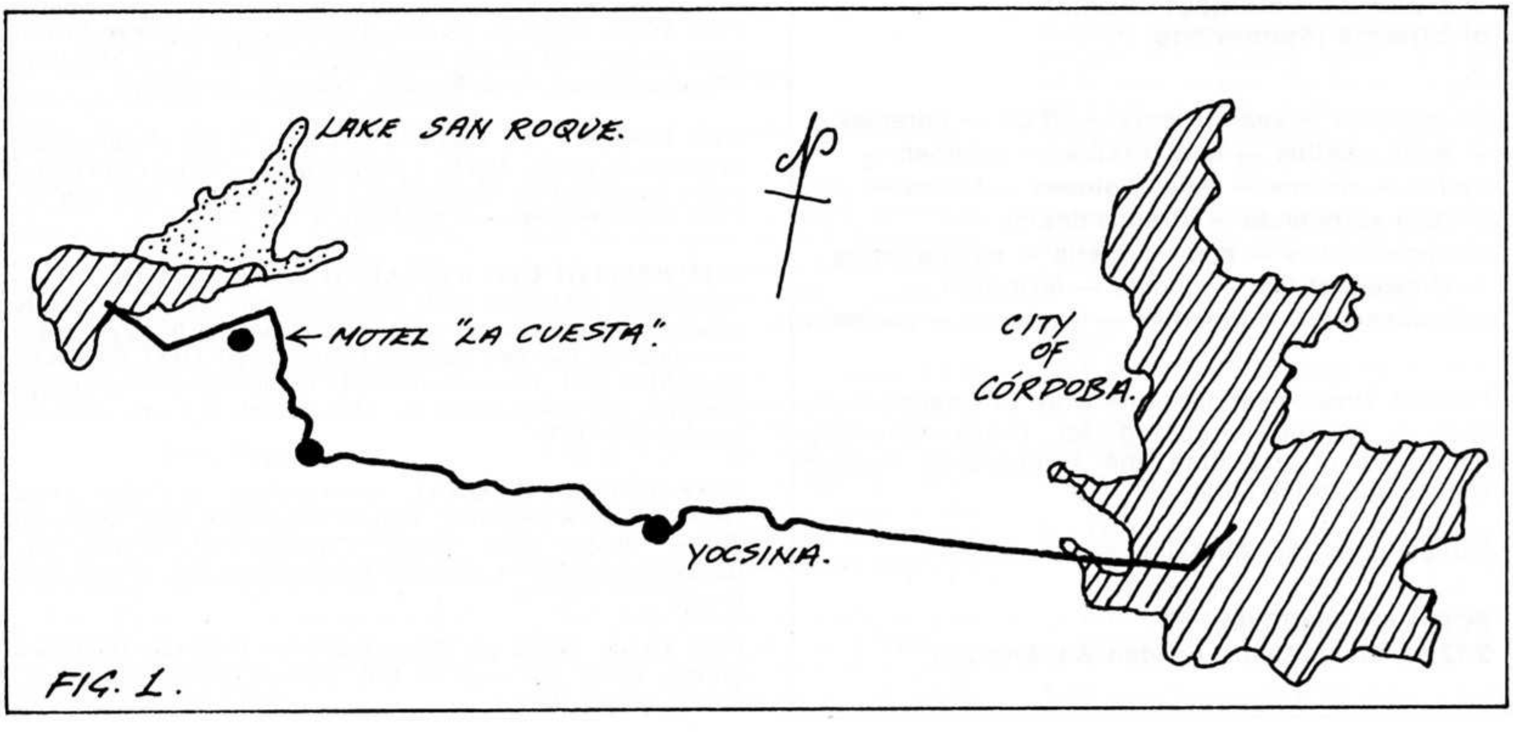


FIG. 1.

swimming pools, amusement centres, etc., plus a climate well suited to the widest and most diversified types of holiday for the tourist. It is 37 kms to the west of Córdoba, at an altitude of 640 metres above sea-level. The present population is 50,000, but it was only half that figure at the time of our story. During the tourist season (December to March) it is nowadays as much as 100,000.

One of the routes leading into Villa Carlos Paz (on the north-east) is National Highway No.20, lined on both sides, even well out into the suburbs, with hotels, motels, boarding houses, etc. The *Motel La Cuesta,* scene of the events we propose to describe, lies on the left hand side of the National Highway No.20 at about 3 kilometres from the centre of Villa Carlos Paz and some 400 metres or so from the local police station at which the case was duly reported.

At the date of the incident, the adjacent area, both around the motel and on the opposite side of the highway, was by no means fully built up. The hotels and restaurants then in existence were in many cases (as indeed is often still the case) separated by quite large gaps of anywhere between 50 and 300 metres.

These aspects of the scene are of fundamental importance, inasmuch as many of the newspaper accounts claimed (and we have also seen it said in some foreign publications) that the Villa Carlos Paz case occurred "right in the centre of the town" or "in a densely populated sector" — a claim which is totally at variance with the reality of the situation on the score of both population density and building density. Moreover, those isolated buildings which are referred to as existing at that date in that area *are of a commercial nature in the main,* so that, apart from a restaurant or two, there was no human activity going on in any of them at the hour of the night when the episode occurred. And even then, as regards those of the buildings that were hotels, there was quite understandably nothing whatever happening at the time anywhere in any of their open spaces (swimming pools, open air bars, etc.) given both the late hour of the night (1.05 a.m.) and the very cold weather prevailing at the time. (It must be borne in mind that the episode occurred on June 14, 1968 — in other words, right in the Argentine autumn and only seven days before the onset of winter.)

Once the affair is visualised within this framework, nobody should be surprised that there were no other witnesses beside Senorita Pretzel, with the exception of, possibly, her father, and the neighbour Cándida Alvarez Paz de Ramirez should both of these persons actually have sighted a UFO.

II. The first Phenomenon

a) Two Red Lights on the Highway

At about 1.05 a.m. on June 14, 1968, Senor Pedro Jacobo Pretzel, an Argentinian citizen, at that date aged 39 years, owner of the *Motel La Cuesta,* and father of the principal party in the story, was returning home in his *Siam de Tella* van from the centre of Villa Carlos Paz.

On the National 20, towards the north-east from his motel and at about, as he estimated it, 100 metres or so from the motel (see Fig. 2) he noticed two very bright stationary red lights which he at first took to be the rear parking lights of some car, inasmuch as they seemed to be located horizontally, side by side, at an equal height from the road. When he first saw them he was about 400 metres from them. But when, driving on down the National 20, he had reached a point where he was now about only 70 metres from the lights, he changed his opinion about them, for he could now see that they were much higher off the ground than the standard position of the lights of any car or bus. He estimated that they were in fact at 1 metre 40, or 1 metre 50 from the ground. Furthermore, he now could see that the two red lights were further apart than is normally the case on ordinary vehicles, for the space between them seemed to him to be about five or six metres.

The two red lights were reflected on the surface of the highway and, as he now felt, pertained to some structure which — due to the darkness — he could not see clearly, but which might possibly be a stationary harvester or some other big mobile vehicle.

Anyway, his doubts now temporarily set aside, Sr. Pretzel drove on, aiming to arrive at the motel by the side road (see his route as shown in Fig. 2). The two red lights, as we have said, lay furhter to the north-east, at about 70 metres from the side road. Then he did a right turn and

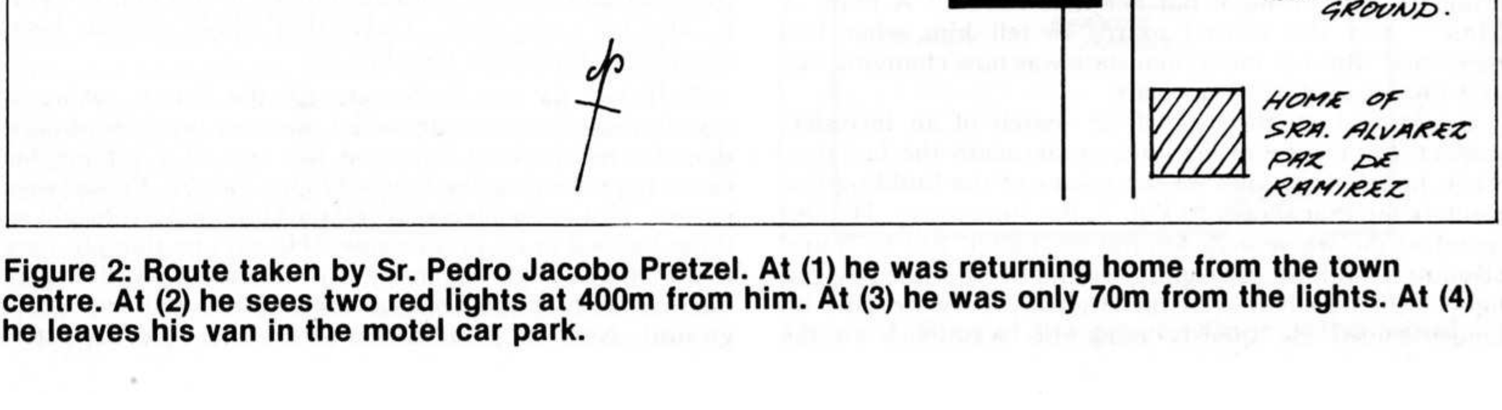
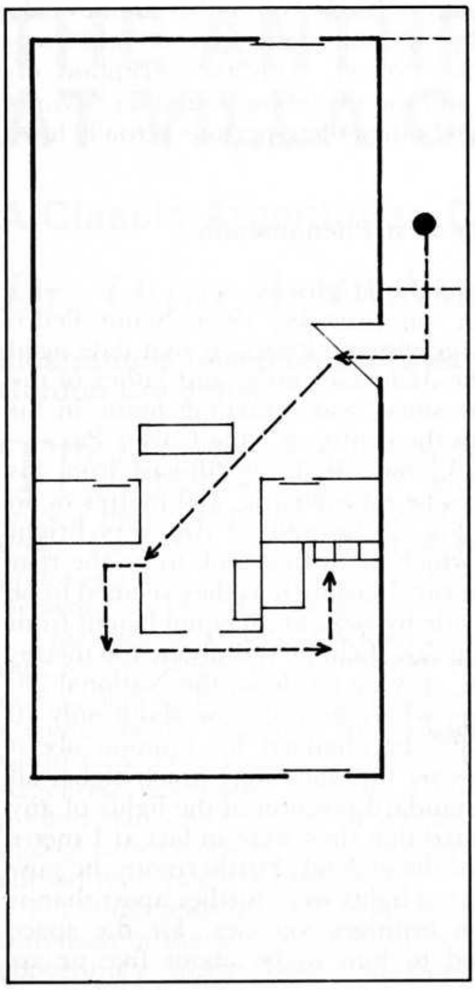


Figure 2: Route taken by Sr. Pedro Jacobo Pretzel. At (1) he was returning home from the town centre. At (2) he sees two red lights at 400m from him. At (3) he was only 70m from the lights. At (4) he leaves his van in the motel car park.



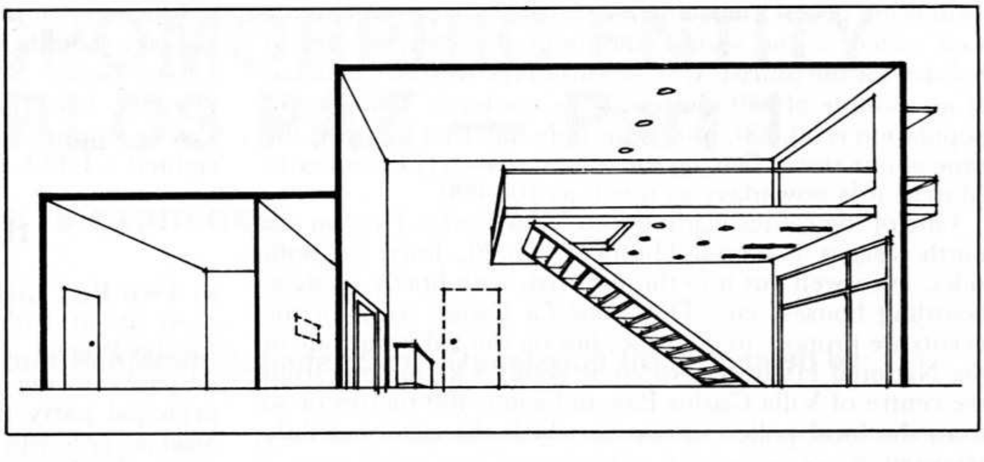


Figure 6 (above): — Figures 4 and 5 are on succeeding pages — Cutaway view of the dining room and adjacent rooms, as seen from the side door.

Figure 3 (left): Sr. Pretzel's route inside the motel up to the moment when he found his daughter (study in relation to Figure 4).

entered the motel garden and brought his van to a halt on the parking space beside the motel. He got out of the van and went into the motel by the side door (the same door in fact through which the entity had entered and quit the building).

Arriving in the dining room of the motel (see Fig. 3) Sr. Pretzel noticed that the ordinary lights in the room were extinguished but that the fluorescent ones were still on as also were the kitchen lights and the lights in the laundry too, as he was to discover a few moments later.

He called out to his daughter, thinking that she must still be up and about. But there was no reply from her. Then, when he went into the laundry (see Fig. 3) he found her on her knees on the floor and huddled over a divan, her head between her hands and her elbows propped on the divan.

She was conscious, but in the throes of a powerful nervous crisis. At first she was quite unable to reply to his questions. She was distraught, beside herself. Then, gradually, she brought out her first words: "A man! A Man!" and she started to try to tell him what had happened. But her emotional state was now changing fast and finally she burst into tears.

Sr. Pretzel at once set off in search of an intruder, inspecting first the cellar lying underneath the laundry. Then he went through all the rooms of the building (his route being that shown in Fig. 3, but in reverse). He also searched the whole area around the motel. But he found absolutely nothing, though he did notice that the two red lights which he had seen on Highway 20 were now no longer there. He quickly made his way back to the laundry and asked his daughter to try to describe in detail what had happened.

b) A Consideration of the Red Lights

There are certain significant points in connection with the two red lights which we think of great interest and which we will therefore discuss in detail.

For example:—

1) There is (still, today) absolutely no street lighting on that stretch of the National 20 where the red lights were. The municipal public street-lighting provided from the town of Villa Carlos Paz ends at a point just 600 metres short of the Motel La Cuesta. Consequently this section of the highway where the motel stands is still very dark at night, though the original road has now been replaced by a brand-new double carriageway highway.

2) At the date when the episode occurred, the road (i.e. the old one) was very narrow — 6.5 metres wide. If the structure to which the red lights belonged had been standing on the road, then, as Sr. Pretzel subsequently realised when reflecting on the matter, if it had been a harvester or some other big bulky thing standing on the road, it would of course have been extremely difficult for anyone to get by on the road at all — particularly if, as he had originally thought, the two red lights were some five or six metres apart, for this would have implied an immense structure. On the other hand, if the structure or whatever it was had not been standing on the road surface at all, but somewhere else, then it would have had to be on a waste site which at that date was completely unsuited for any vehicle whatsoever to travel on it, being quite irregular and uneven, with abundant clumps of bushes on it, and tall yuyo trees. Today that whole site has been completely built over (see Fig. 2).

3) If we try to "reconstruct" the scene, using a standard-sized car as our model, then we perceive at once that the red parking lights on the rear of a car are far closer together than the two red lights that Sr. Pretzel says he saw. Nor are a car's rear red parking lights as bright as those lights that he says he saw. (He says he thought they mush each be some 20 cms or so in diameter.) And, finally the rear parking lights of a car are very low and near to the ground. Another point is that when one "reconstructs"

the scene like this, it is obvious that the silhouette of a car standing in such a position would be clearly visible against the field of light given by its own headlamps. But Sr. Pretzel says he merely saw two powerful red lights and their reflections on the ground, being quite unable to observe any silhouette of the structure to which they belonged.

4) When further questions were put to Sr. Pretzel by CADIU, he explained that his van suffered no mechanical disturbance as he was approaching the motel. He said likewise that he observed no abnormality of any kind with the wristwatch he was wearing, or with the van's radio. (The latter was however not switched on at the time.)

5) Sr. Pretzel observed no cloud or fog or mist anywhere near the position where the two red lights were. Nor did he detect any sort of odour inside or outside the motel.

6) When, at approximately 1.10 a.m., he entered the motel by the side door (the same door through which the entity which we shall shortly describe had entered and left the building) he found the door shut but not locked.

III. The Second Phenomenon: The Human-like Being

Bearing in mind that this second phenomenon occurred solely in the dining room of the motel, it is vitally important that we first give a description of the setting and of the adjacent rooms, in order to facilitate a ready understanding of the movements of the entity and of María Elodia Pretzel, the eyewitness.

1) The Dining Room and Adjacent Rooms

Figure 4 gives an adequate idea of the dining room and the rooms adjoining it. The dining room is the first part of the motel that the traveller sees when he enters the building. It has a glass-covered frontage on to the National 20, and is reached through a sliding-door, also of glass. The dining room has a frontage width of nine metres and a depth of 12.7 metres.

In the north-eastern side of the dining room there is the side door giving on to the motel's car-park and, as we have said, it was through this same side door that the human-like being entered and left.

Facing the front of the building, and end of the dining room, there is a bar counter, 2.7 metres long and 60 cms wide, which separates the dining room from a small bar area and from the motel's office, from which latter position María Elodia first observed the humanoid being.

The bar area is separated by a wall from the passage near the kitchen, but there is a serving hatch in this wall, connecting the two rooms (see Figure 4).

There is a mezzanine over the front part of the dining room. The lower floor is lit by three 120 watt fluorescent tubes and six ordinary 40 watt lights, while the upper part has only three ordinary lights, also of 40 watts each. Figures 4 and 5 show the positions of these light sources.

In addition to the lighting just described, the dining room also has decorative fluorescent tubes which give out very soft pinkish and violet lights. These are on all the walls except the glass front of the motel, and the total power of them amounts to only about 70 watts. Figure 5 shows the locations of these small artistic light sources.

Figure 6 provides a cross-section view of the dining room, and shows the various features and details described above.

2) A Humanoid Presence

At the time of the occurrence, María Elodia Pretzel was 19 years old. She is the eldest of Sr. Pretzel's four children, to whom we shall refer below when we come to discuss her and her personality.

At 1.02 a.m. on June 14, 1968, María Elodia Pretzel had just seen off two guests, accompanying them as far as the side door of the motel that leads out to the car park (see Figure 4). Then she closed the side door (she does not remember however whether she locked it) after which she switched off the ordinary lights of the ground floor and mezzanine and also the decorative coloured lights. All that remained turned on then were the three fluorescent lights (totalling 360 watts) which always remained on all night (see Figures 5 and 6 for the positions of these fluorescent tubes).

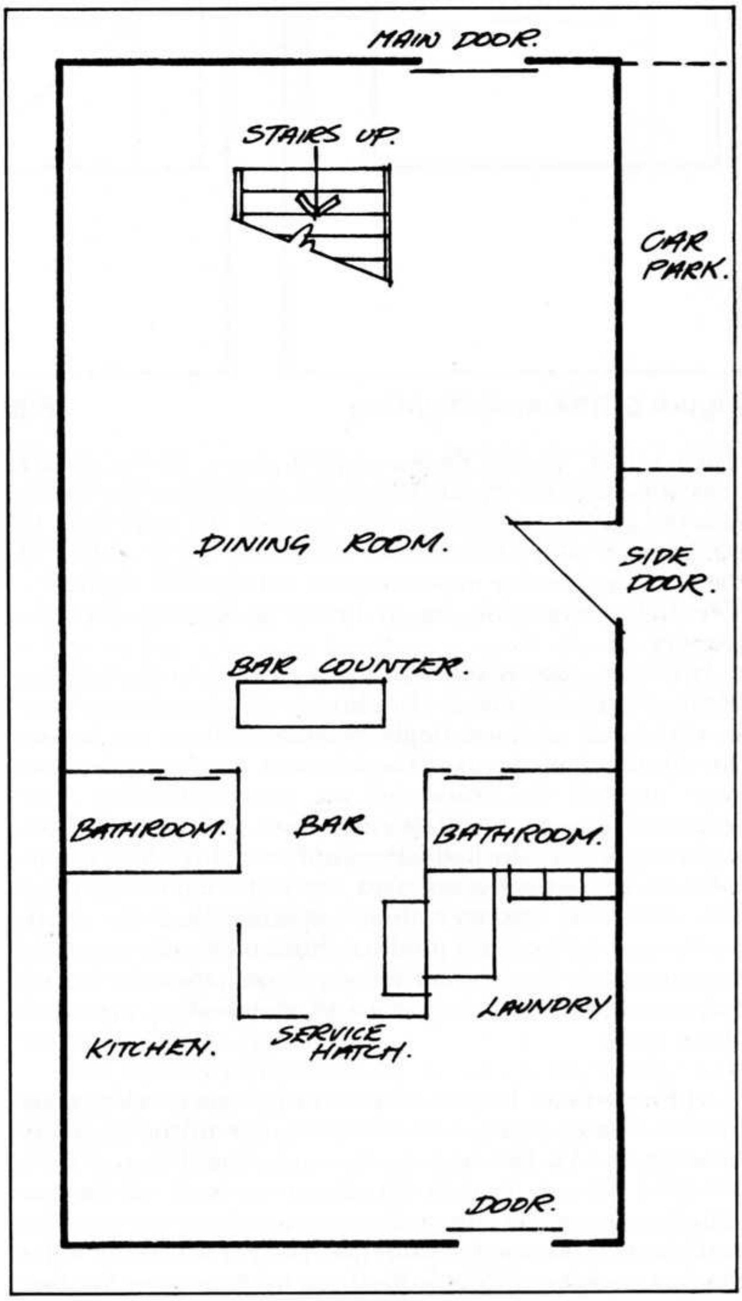


Figure 4: Plan of the ground floor of the motel.

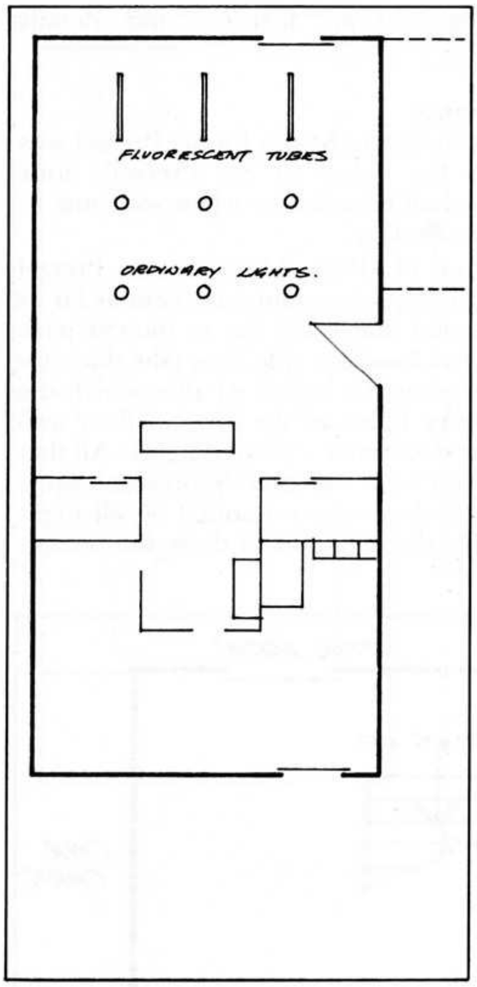


Figure 5: The main lighting

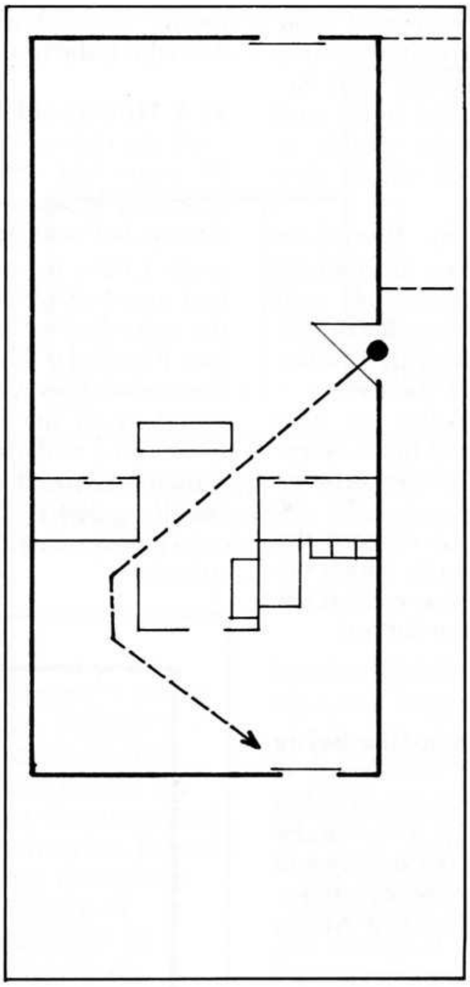


Figure 7

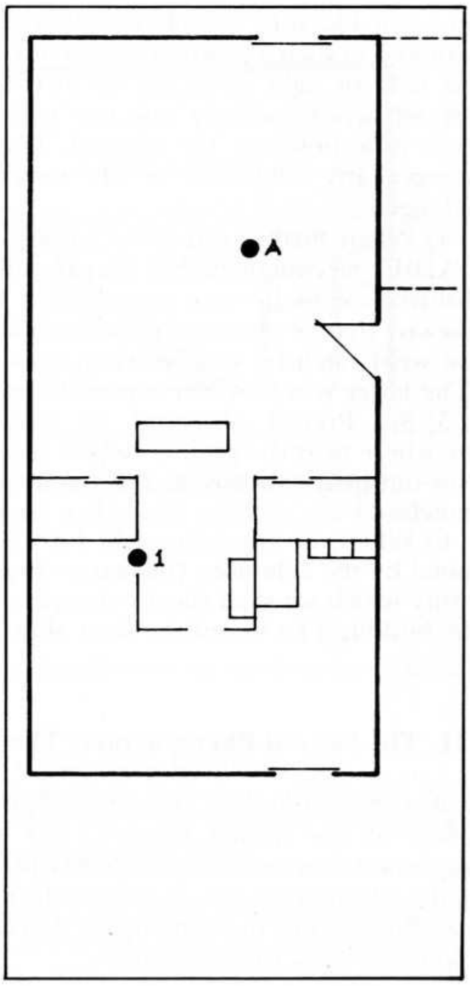


Figure 8

After that, María Elodia walked across the small bar area adjoining the dining room and, through a side door, into the kitchen. Then from the kitchen she went over to the laundry with the intention of locking the rear door of the building (see her movements as indicated in Figure 7). The lights were still on in both the kitchen and the laundry.

However, just as she was about to lock the back door, María Elodia perceived a brightness showing through the serving-hatch and seemingly emanating from the bar or the dining room areas. (There was a curious light blue glow around the frame of the serving-hatch.) This surprised her very much, because after seeing out the two departing guests she had left on only the three fluorescent tubes in the dining room area, and this light which she now saw was stronger than anything that the three fluorescent tubes could produce. She could only conclude that somebody (maybe her father, or perhaps some guest) had entered the building and had switched on the other lights again.

a) Phase One: Impelled by curiosity, she quickly made for the dining room, and when she got to the doorway between the kitchen and the bar area (see Figure 8) she beheld a strange human-like figure in front of the bar counter, at a point about three metres from the counter and about seven metres from her. (In Figure 8, 1 denotes the first position of María Elodia, and A denotes the first position of the entity. In the succeeding figures — in which we depict the subsequent phases of the phenomenon — we have also indicated the movements of María Elodia and of the entity by means of corresponding numbers and letters so as to assist the reader in arriving at a satisfactory grasp of the movements of both parties.)

During this first phase, María Elodia beholds in front of her a being slightly over two metres high, dressed in a shining light blue one-piece suit made of a material that gives the impression of having scales.

The garment covered the whole body from the neck downwards, including the hands and feet, and fitted the anatomy of the entity's body closely. At the waist the entity wore a slender blue belt. In his left hand he was holding a glassy-looking sphere which irradiated a coherent beam of light — light of a faintly pale blue colour, almost white. The sphere was constantly moving forwards and backwards, and lighting up the whole dining room quite independently of the fluorescent tubes. The entity was smiling the whole time.

The being was standing, with his legs slightly apart, like someone who has just halted in his stride. He was merely moving his left arm to and fro and grasping the sphere in that hand. The side door leading out to the car park (Figure 4) was open, from which María Elodia deduced that the entity had come in through it.

Her first visual contact with the entity produced two simultaneous effects on María Elodia: on the one hand she had the sensation that she was being misshaped, drawn out lengthways, and made thinner, particularly her face. It felt as though some invisible and superior force were affecting her whole body and distorting it. She

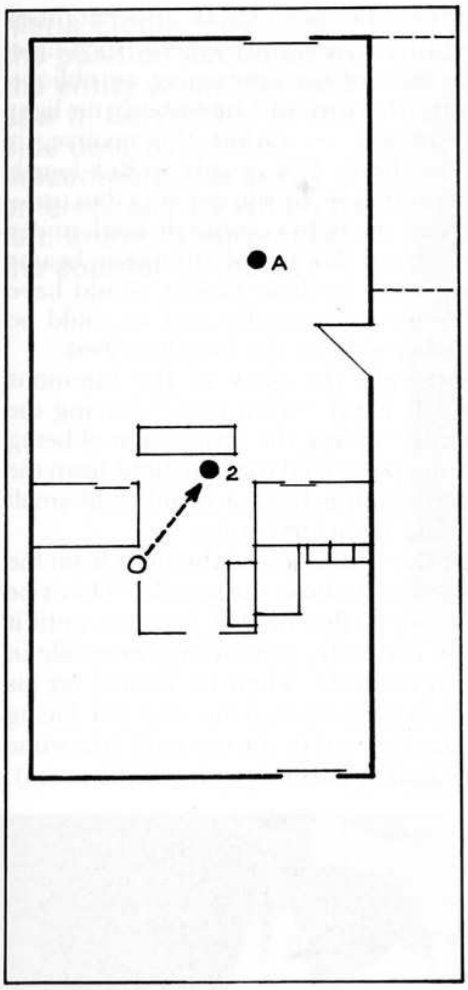


Figure 9

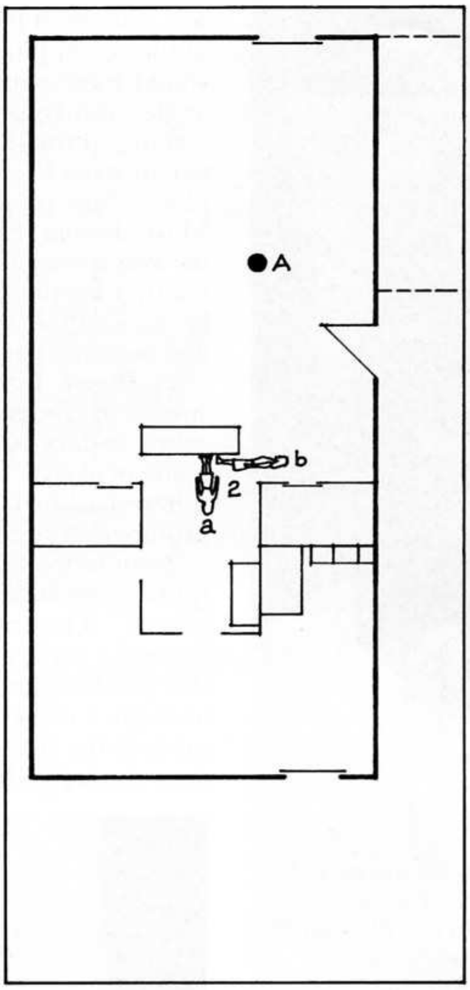


Figure 10

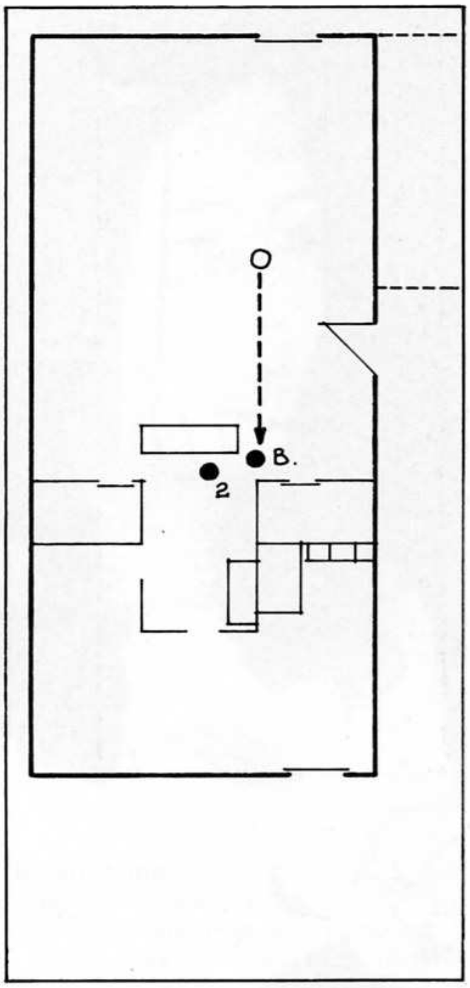


Figure 11

explained that the sensation was in a way rather like the effect of those distorting mirrors that one sees in amusement centres.

Simultaneously, while experiencing all this, she was attempting to cry out, but could not. She felt as though her brain was blocked. (*Ocupado* — occupied — was the actual term that she used.) So that all she managed to do was to raise her hands quickly to her head. And there she stood, motionless.

Then she heard, inside her ears, (''as though there were a loudspeaker or a transistor radio fixed inside my ears'') a clear and rather grave voice which kept repeating: *''Don't be afraid! Don't be afraid!''* She says she heard these words in Spanish. The voice had no particular accent. It went on repeating the words until midway through phase 5 of the phenomenon.

b) Phase Two: Suddenly she felt herself gripping with both hands the top of the bar counter. But she has absolutely no recollection of having moved to that point in the room from the doorway where she had been standing (the doorway between the kitchen and the bar area). All she remembers is that after catching sight of the entity and experiencing the strange symptoms already described, she raised her hands to her head and stood there rooted to the spot. She is totally unable to explain how and when she had reached the counter.

The entity (now only three metres from her) was still on the same spot as before, rhythmically moving his left hand (holding the sphere) forwards and backwards (Figure 9). María Elodia was still hearing the words *''Don't be afraid! Don't be afraid!''* continuously repeated inside her ears, and she now began to feel a tingling sensation in her legs, as though they had ''gone to sleep.'' This tingling sensation was to persist throughout the whole of the rest of the phenomenon.

c) Phase Three: At this juncture, the entity slowly extended his right arm, bringing it up to shoulder-level, with the palm of the hand upwards. The tips of his fingers were emitting flashing beams of light. She then noticed that on the back of the raised hand the entity had a sort of rectangular device, resembling a gauntlet, which covered the four larger fingers (see Figure 15).

As the entity raised his right arm, she felt herself drained of strength and falling backwards. But the curious thing about it is that this falling movement was slowed down, while all her muscles were relaxed, her arms and legs completely unflexed. This ''falling'' movement ceased when her head was only 20 or 25 cms from the floor, and only her heels were in contact with the floor (position ''a'' in Figure 10).

Then her body began slowly to rise again, without her having done anything to cause it, until once again she was in the vertical position. And once more she grabbed hold of the top of the counter, gripping it with her thumbs on top and her fingers beneath the rim.

However, no sooner was she upright again than the entity repeated the action, raising his right arm. Once again she experienced the same total muscular relaxation as before, but this time she was falling slowly towards her right. And once again she did not touch the floor, the

Maria Elodia Pretzel

falling process ceasing when her right shoulder was about 20 or 25 cms from the floor (position "b" in Figure 10). A second or so later, still without any support whatsoever, she began to move slowly back again to the upright position. Having reached the vertical once more, she again grabbed hold of the top of the counter.

(To describe it more graphically, one might say that María Elodia's "falls" were like the swinging motion of those sort of dolls which invariably revert to a vertical position because their spherical base is weighted.)

d) Phase Four: As she grabbed the counter top once more, María Elodia now saw that the entity was beginning to approach her. He came over to the right extremity of the counter (there is no door there, as can be seen from one of the accompanying photographs) but he did not enter the bar area (see Figure 11).

He moved slowly, striding with one foot straight in front of the other, and with the toe of one foot touching the heel of the other. He was still smiling all the while.

At this point María Elodia became aware that the tips of his toes were also emitting luminous beams of light like those coming from his right hand.

From the moment that she had got her first good view of the entity, her attention had been struck by the fact that quite a lot of light was coming through under the counter, which was not standing directly on the floor, but was raised above it on supports some 15 cms high. Had the sole sources of light in the room been the fluorescent tubes of the motel plus the entity's luminous sphere, such light would have struck the base of the counter at an oblique angle, and consequently there would have been no light coming through underneath — rather the reverse, it would have been darker there. It was only in this fourth phase of the phenomenon that — as she explained to us — María Elodia realised that the light coming through under the counter could have been due to the luminous beams emitted by the entity's feet, as these beams would have been reaching the counter horizontally and so could be passing under to the other side as she has described.

e) Phase Five: Suddenly the glow of the luminous sphere in the entity's left hand "went out," leaving the sphere a dark blue colour "giving the impression of being made of glass." Then she perceived that the light from the sphere had in fact been coming from a number of small protuberances resembling truncated cones.

Simultaneously with the extinction of the light from the sphere, she suddenly ceased to hear the words "Don't be afraid!" The entity began to flex his left forearm until it formed a right angle to his body, remaining immobile in this position for several seconds. Then he turned on his heel (in a clockwise direction) so that he was not facing towards the side door leading out to the car park (the same door through which he had apparently entered the room).

Maria Elodia explains the sensation of distortion of her face which she experienced at the start of the first phase.

Maria Elodia indicates the position occupied by the entity when she first saw it. Behind her is the side door by which, presumably, the entity entered, and by which he left. In the foreground is the counter of the bar.

Then he started to move towards this door, still walking as described above, moving along an imaginary straight line as it were, the toe of each foot touching the heel of the other foot.

Then María Elodia noticed that the entity was wearing a small pleated skirt at the back, of the same colour and same appearance as the rest of his clothing. Consequently the entity's belt was not visible from behind.

The entity was moving slowly, still with his left arm extended and holding the now extinguished sphere.

Reaching the side door, the entity lowered his head slightly, as he was a little taller than the top of the door. As he passed out through the door, it closed behind him. She was unable to see whether he had touched the door itself or its handle at any moment (see Figure 12).

Simultaneously with the disappearance of the entity, the tingling sensation left María Elodia's lower limbs.

Still stunned and shaken, she tried to escape into the rear inner rooms of the motel. First bracing herself against the counter and then against the wall on her left, she managed to get into the kitchen, and from there into the laundry (Figure 13) where she dropped on her knees beside a divan. She braced herself against the divan, her head between her hands and her elbows propped up on the divan. (At no point did she lose consciousness.)

In this position, in a severely shocked state, her father found her. All she could manage to bring out was: *"A man! A man!"*

This emotional state lasted for several days and got much worse as her menses set in. Dr. Hugo Vaggione, ex-director of the Villa Carlos Paz Municipal Hospital and family doctor to the Pretzels, therefore advised that María Elodia should go away for a while. This was done, Sr. Pretzel sending her for three weeks to Salta, whence she returned home fully recovered.

3) Duration of the Phenomenon

The apparition of the entity had lasted about four minutes. We arrived at this estimate after consideration of the following factors: María Elodia recalls that on the night in question she was due to give two guests a call at 1.00 a.m., which she did, checking the time by an alarm clock. Then she saw them off the premises, which was a couple of minutes later. Then she went to the laundry, where she only remained a minute or so. This brings the time to 1.03 a.m. It was a few seconds after this that she noticed the bright light showing through the serving hatch, which had marked the start of the phenomenon.

The entity quitted the motel at maybe 1.07 or 1.08 a.m., because when her father arrived (1.10 a.m.) María Elodia thought she had been in the laundry for about two or three minutes, slumped against the divan as described above.

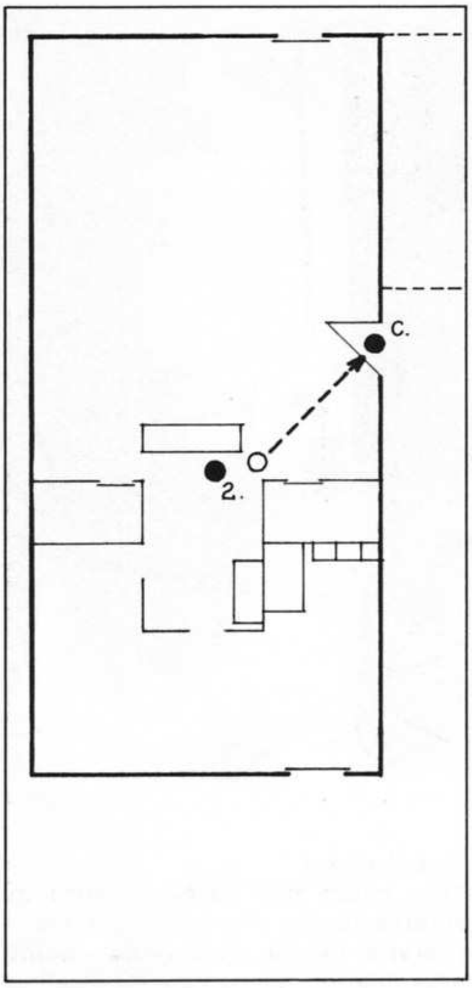
4) Subsequent Psychophysiological Effects

At about 6.00 a.m. that same morning, María Elodia experienced an intense tingling sensation in both legs. This sensation lasted for only a few seconds and then ceased. During the following night the tingling recurred two or three times for brief intervals, with the same characteristics as before.

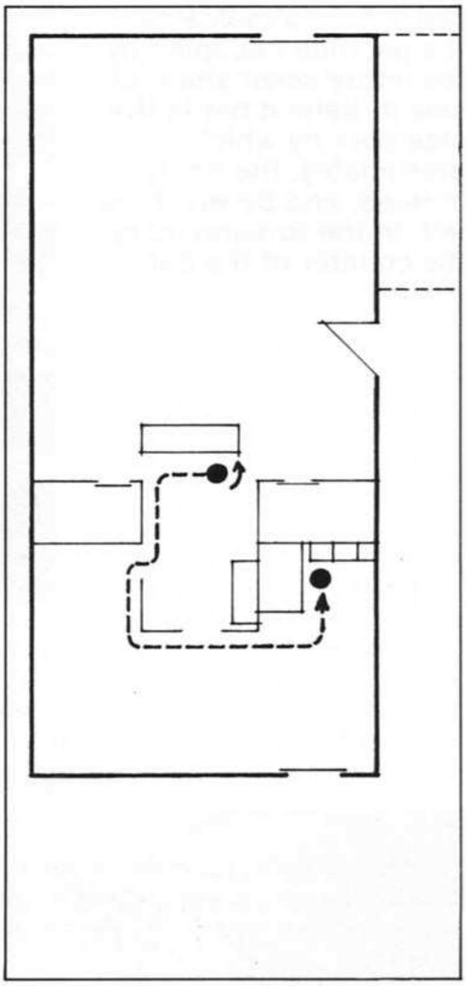
During the following nights, she frequently awoke in terror, hearing again the words "Don't be afraid! Don't be afraid!" but she is unable to say whether these experiences were not merely due to subconscious recollection of what she had undergone.

IV. Some more details about the Entity

While we have been at pains to give the features of each phase of the phenomenon, we have also thought it right to examine in detail certain of the physical traits of the entity.



Left, Figure 12: After raising his arm and standing immobile, the entity swings on his heel and moves towards the side door. At the door he stooped to pass through, but María Elodia could not see if he touched the handle.



Right, Figure 13: Following the entity's going, María Elodia's route via the kitchen to the laundry, and collapse on the divan.

For a start, Figure 14 shows the appearance of the entity, and for the sake of brevity we shall refer always to this figure. What we desire to emphasise are these details:—

a) María Elodia thought the entity looked like a man aged 30-35 years.

b) The entity lowered his head in order not to strike the top of the door as he went out, so we checked the height of the door and found it was 1 metre 96. María Elodia thought the head of the entity was about 10 or 15 cms higher than the cross-beam of the door, from which one may deduce that the height of the entity was somewhere around 2.06 to 2.11 metres.

c) The entity's anatomy was lissom but in proportion to his height. "He looked like a ballet dancer," said María Elodia. He was wearing a one-piece garment covering the whole body from neck to feet, arms and hands included. The material — which appeared to be seamless — was of a shining light blue colour and looked as though it had scales. He was wearing no shoes or soles of any kind, the outlines of his toes being clearly detectable through the material.

He had a slender dark blue belt around his waist, but this was only visible from the front and sides. He had behind him a pleated skirt hanging down as far as midway on the calf of the legs, and this may have hidden the belt from view when he was seen at that angle.

d) The entity's complexion was very white and pale, like wax. His hair was clipped short, combed back, and of a very light blond colour (at times appearing to be white). She observed no eyebrows. If he had any then they merged with the colour of his skin. His eyes seemed to be light-coloured, but she does not recall whether she saw them blink. His facial features resembled the German type.

e) His face was pleasant and suggested benevolence. The face was natural, and did not appear to be a mask. He smiled the whole time, displaying perfect white teeth.

At no time did his lips move. They had no particular colour and harmonised with his facial complexion. The voice heard by María Elodia was inside her own ears and did not come from the entity's mouth. Likewise the voice did not come from anywhere outside or around her (i.e., as from a loud-speaker, for example).

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FIG. 14.

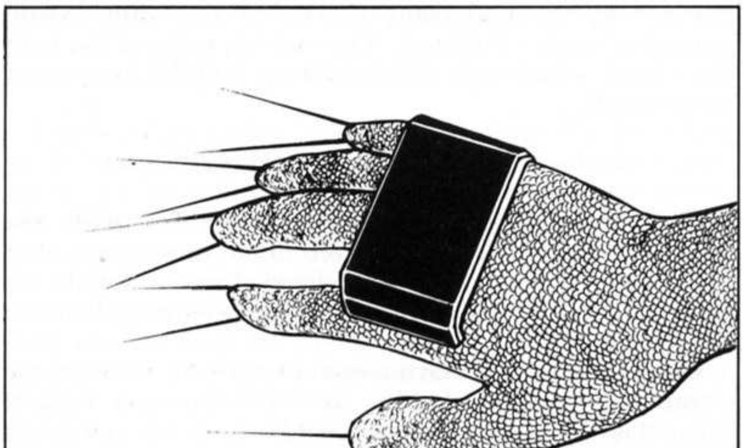

FIG. 15

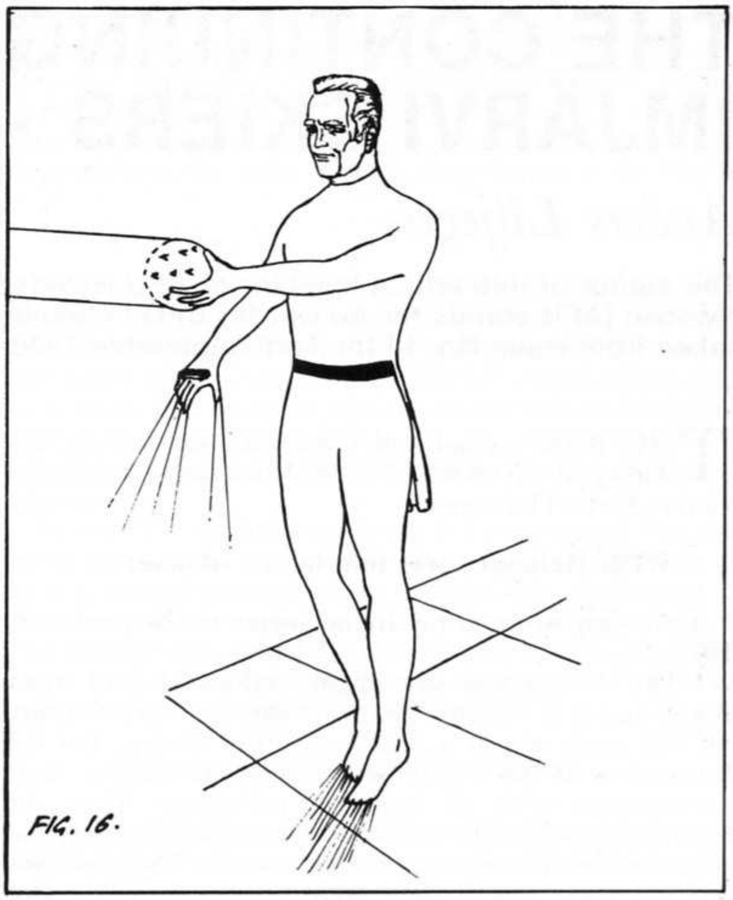

FIG. 16.

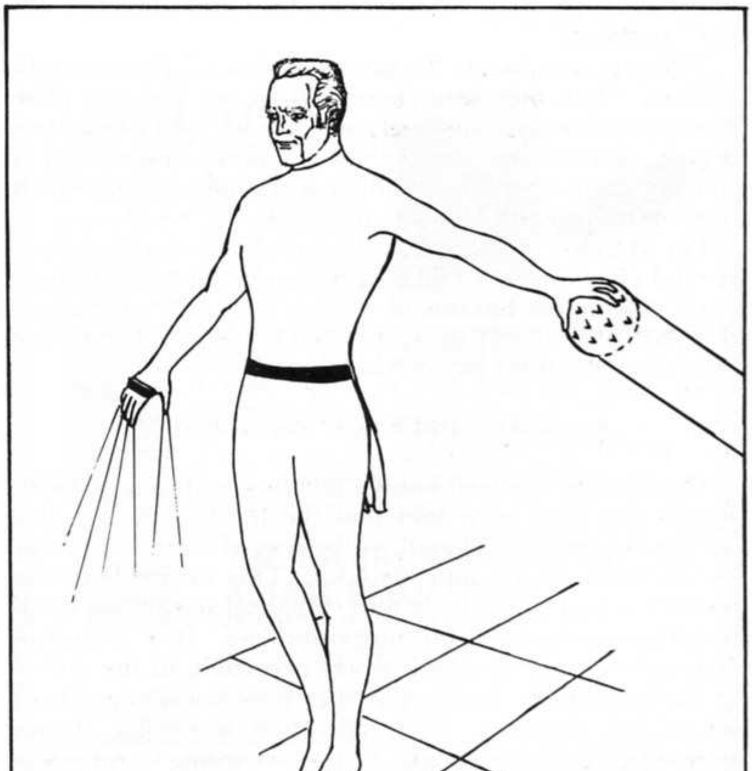

FIG. 17

f) When the entity walked, he strode as though stepping out an imaginary straight line, the point of each foot touching the heel of the other. He did this slowly, but in a quite natural fashion, easily, as though this were his normal and customary sort of movement. At no time were

(Continued on page 29)

THE CONTINUING STORY OF THE IMJÄRVI SKIERS — Part 2

Anders Liljegren

The author of this article is editor of *AFU Nyhetsblad* (AFU Newsletter) now moved to Norrköping, Sweden [AFU stands for Arkivet för UFO-Forskning (Archives for UFO research)].* His contribution is taken from issue No. 19 for April/September 1980.

THIS is the second and concluding part of our updating of the story of Finnish contactee syndrome victim Aarno Heinonen.

What Heinonen was told by the ufonauts...

Heinonen wrote to my friend Jorma on November 8, 1972:

"The humanoids are highly educated and their development is 5000 to 7000 years ahead of ours. Culture on this earth was at a peak before the ice age, but the humans went the wrong way, started to destroy their environment with all kinds of pollutions. Then the humanoids guided the sunbeams in another direction and so created both darkness and cold on earth. The result was an ice age. Humanoids were also responsible for redirecting the sun beams back and melting the ice. They brought people from other planets here and thus they are our 'ancestors'."

"We are now facing the same problems," Aarno wrote further, "but this time there will be no ice age. The humanoids have constructed a new device with which they try to cleanse our atmosphere. Taking Imjärvi as a starting point they are building a triangle within which they clean away all 'surplus material'."

On March 3, 1972, a fish-shaped object was seen from several places in mid-Finland. Aarno saw it from his own yard. Asking the humanoid woman about the purpose of this particular object she responded that this was the very type of object used for 'cleaning up'.

Are Aarno and Esko "controlled"?

Concerning the well-known incident of January 1970, Aarno has now been told that the humanoids, on this occasion, had "inoculated" — by way of radiation beams — an alien device into his back. This device has now become a part of his body and "medical science on earth wouldn't understand the purpose of it." It is a kind of transmitter-receiver which works according to the orders of the humanoids. In this way they have knowledge about all of his thoughts. Esko also had a similar device implanted into his forehead, but — according to Aarno — Esko has been "set aside" by the aliens, due to his actions towards other people.

Aarno further wrote that he has been given extrasensory powers by his humanoid friends. Once he received knowledge about a burglary and he sensed who was the guilty one. He told the police, who caught the thief. This is an example of pre-cognition, Aarno wrote, a gift from the alien humanoids. Aarno was by then (November 1972) awaiting further contacts and intended to ask his alien friends to be taken for a voyage in their vehicle...

The story goes on and broadens into tracks quite typical of UFO lore. Aarnos negative words of Esko may reflect the antipathy he had had for his fellow since the 1970 incident (see the FSR articles). We now come to Aarnos third encounter with the strange woman, as described in *UFOAIKA* No. 11/1972:

Woman floats down from hovering cloud

On September 4, 1972, at 1845 hours, Aarno was out for a tour on his motor-scooter when he noticed he was followed by a small "cloud." The "cloud" pased him at an altitude of 20 metres. Aarno stopped his scooter.

He say two feet coming out of the bottom of "the cloud" and subsequently the alien woman, from his earlier contacts, floated down towards him. She landed on earth, resting on her side, saying: "Don't be afraid. I am your friend from another planet. We have met before." This time she wore brown shoes and a brown dress. Before returning she gave Aarno her hand. When he took it he noticed that she wore a thin glove. She drew out the middle of the three antennas on her ball, which she had in her other hand, and then glided upwards in the same manner as she had come down. At this time Aarno noticed a weak whirlwind. The woman entered the ball-like cloud, which took off straight up into the heavens at great speed.

A new object on the January 1970-spot

This records Aarno's fourth encounter with the woman, which allegedly occurred about one month after Jorma received his first letter from Aarno. Details are from *UFOAIKA* No. 2/1973, and from another letter to Jorma:

On December 10 Aarno was on his way through the woods to visit a neighbour, Mr. Väänänen, a walk of about 1½ kilometres. It was 1730 hours as he spotted an object with a vividly red cupola on its lower part. The machine was 5 to 7 metres in diameter. In fact, the sighting occurred at the same spot as the January 1970 encounter.

Aarno became frightened and ran the remaining part of the distance to his neighbour. Arriving, he told him that he had seen the UFO land in the woods amongst young 1

*AFU address: PO Box 11027, S-600 11, Norrköping 11, Sweden.

to 2 metre tall birch-trees. His neighbour did not believe him, however, and Aarno made no further attempts to convince him.

Aarno is always alone, it seems, when these startling things allegedly happen to him. A pattern we have seen from many other cases, for instance the Danish case of the fake UFO photographer and alleged contactee Jorma Viita.[6]

The girl floats on "beams"

Two hours later, Heinonen starts for home on the same path as before. Arriving at the spot where he last saw the UFO he notices a heavy wind coming towards him, which increases to the force of a gale. Aarno couldn't move and when he stopped he spotted the humanoid woman coming from behind some pines, asking: "My friend, why did you run away? I wished you no harm and you haven't done me any harm either."

It was so dark Aarno couldn't see the girl's face, but her clothing shone in a yellow, phosphorus tone. Her yellow shoes were connected to the rest of her dress. From the bottom of the shoes came a "beam" in such a way that the foor never touched the ground. As she lifted her foot this "beam" became thicker. Aarno asked why she had this "transparent thing" under her feet. She answered that she could walk on the snow without leaving traces. The nature of the beam was unknown to Heinonen as well as to all other earthmen, she stated.

Aarno loses his camera

Aarno had brought his camera on this occasion, but the girl took it, asking if he had taken pictures. Aarno answered that he had. Then the girl dropped something from her hand and when Aarno bent down to pick it up, the girl and the camera just disappeated into thin air. This is the last time Aarno saw the girl and his camera, as far as we know. He now thinks he had done something wrong when he tried to photograph the girl.

The stone

The object he picked up was an egg-shaped stone, white on the ends and deeply engraved with a "T"-like symbol. Aarno got the feeling that this stone had a strange power and he became incapable of working and got pains in his joints. (According to a Finnish ufologist the stone became hot in such a way that it couldn't be kept indoors.)

One night, as Aarno awoke, he took the stone in his hand and wished for the humanoids to come to him. Immediately a light, as large as a man's fist, came floating through the room, but then disappeared up the chimney. Aarno wrote that he thought he could contact the humanoids at will in this way.

Aarno throws the stone away

On New Year's Eve (1972) Aarno was "ordered" to throw the stone into the nearby lake. On the same evening he went to Esko telling him he had to throw it away. He did not do this, however, and on the next evening (New Year's Day 1973) he went to Esko again now telling him he intended to hide the stone beneath a barn. Returning home, a big axe, half-a-metre across and without a handle, suddenly appeared on the path in front of him. The axe was vividly red, but did not reflect light. Aarno looked at the axe for about 30 seconds, then it disappeared. Aarno allegedly went straight to a hole in the ice and threw the stone into the deepest part of the lake!

* * * * * *

By now the reader will ask himself: Where will this end? Where is this chain of absurd events taking us? Isn't this reporting asking a bit too much in the way of believing in one single witness's credibility? Well, I am not asking you to believe, just to listen to what Aarno tells us allegedly happened to him, whether this may be objective, physical experience, or some form of psychic or psychological phenomena.

In my 1973 writings on this case I commented that the incidents seemed "more like sagas and myths than a logical contact-attempt by an intergalactic civilisation." According to one report Viljo attempted to take a picture of a strange light when his camera was beaten out of his hand. When he opened the camera the film was burned to ashes. Do you recognise the pattern?

Heinonen disappears: abduction or . . . ?

On Good Friday of 1973, Tapani Kuningas, editor of *UFOAIKA* and the author of sevral Finnish UFO books, had made an appointment with Aarno, since he had received permission to publish Aarno's private "UFO diary."

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Aarno had somehow misunderstood their agreement and stayed home. When Kuningas arrived at Esko Viljo's (the place where they were to meet) Aarno wasn't there and so they went to the Heinonen residence. But Heinonen, in turn, had spotted their car and gone to Viljo's by another path-way. He also brought his diary along with him.

Kuningas and Viljo stayed in Heinonen's home waiting for him to come. Viljo went out several times to search for Aarno but did not succeed in finding him. Only three hours later did Aarno turn up. He couldn't explain where he had been. Instead he took out his diary, which he had kept in his jacket, and started to study it.

It was only later, in a letter from Aarno, that Kuningas gor an explanation for Heinonen's strange behaviour. Aarno had taken a short-cut passing the scene of the 1970 encounter. There he had seen two black creatures but continued towards Viljo's home not caring about them. Not finding Viljo and Kunigas at Viljo's place he returned along the same path.

The two black, hairy creatures were still in the same place when he returned. What then happened, Aarno barely recollects. Suddenly he "found himself" on a mountain, two kilometres away. He says he has foggy memories of being in a round room where the walls were covered by "cameras." (Source: *UFOAIKA* No. 6/73).

Conclusion

Was Heinonen abducted, or was this claimed experience of his a "trick" to make him more interesting in the eyes of Finland's leading UFO researcher? I wish I knew! Here ends my track of the Imjärvi case and I would be grateful to know what happened next. Seven years have passed since we last heard of Aarno and Esko.

Heinonen seemed to be a lonely man. At the age of 38 he was still living with his parents in a house without electricity. His main interests were sports and fishing. The 1970 incident seemed extremely trustworthy and well-detailed. What are we to think of this turn of events? Did Aarno become a victim of the phenomenon? Was he invalidated not only physically (rumours have it that he was unable to work for several years) but also in a psychological sense?

Reference

6. Viita-sagen forelobig afsluttet. IGAP Danmark special report, mid 70's.

ANTHROPOSOPHISTS AND UFOs

Charles Bowen

ANTHROPOSOPHY **means the Knowledge, or Wisdom, of Man, and, in the particular sense in which we look at it now, is based on the teachings of Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925), an Austrian Doctor of Science, a mathematician, philosopher and clairvoyant.**

In his teachings Steiner placed the Christ figure at the centre of everything, the pivot of earth evolution. Anthroposophists are firm in their belief that Ahriman is going to incarnate after the year 2000 A.D. and from then on the already ensuing struggle for control of mankind will be redoubled by the forces of evil.

It was with pleasant surprise that I received quite recently a small and brand new journal **Meeting the Third Millenium** (described as being ". . .for all those concerned with the problems of today and tomorrow")* produced by an editorial board of four anthroposophists, the names of two of whom will be familiar to many readers of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW: Roma Browne — whose idea it was to produce *Meeting the Third Millenium* — for many years a reader of FSR and occasional correspondent, and Dan Lloyd, a journalist who was assistant editor of FSR from 1965 to 1974, and among whose many contributions to our magazine was a piece on anthroposophy and UFOs entitled "Let's take off our Blinkers" (FSR Vol. 15, No. 1, January-February 1969).

In the editorial leader of the first issue of the new journal Dan Lloyd, writing of Ahriman, points out that "Since this journal is intended not only for the students of Anthroposophy but for readers who may be mystified by the term, it should be said in explanation that the name Ahriman has been used since ancient Persian times to denote that being who, in the Bible, is known as Satan."

Writing further that ". . .the social and international conflicts of the present bear his [Ahriman's] unmistakeable stamp" Mr. Lloyd goes on to say: "Ahriman, then, is a cosmic being who has worked on humanity through the ages. Materialism in every sphere of life is a result of his activity. Fear and hatred of the spiritual is a testimony to his influence. The subjection of humanity to his will and the setting aside of the impulse of Christ is his long-term aim."

It is this cosmic being whom a growing body of anthroposophists feel is behind all the manifestations of the UFO phenomenon, the LITS, the closer encounters, the landings, the occupants, the abductions, the trips into Space; all part of the web of deception being spun to instil "belief in flying saucers" while hiding the true threat behind the phenomenon. I am glad to be able to leave the expansion of these notions to Dan Lloyd, for he has written a review of Dr. Jacques Vallée's latest book, *Messengers of Deception,* and I am glad also to be able to reprint this, as I am sure it will be of interest to readers of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW who will doubtless form their own conclusions.

As an "aside" it is a well-known fact that Dr. Rudolf Steiner's movement was prohibited in Nazi Germany on the orders of Hitler, and it is understood that his books were publicly burned.

* *Meeting the Third Millenium* is obtainable from Roma Browne, 2 Riverside, Forest Row, Sussex, at a price of 40p + 10p.postage (overseas 40p + 20p postage).

BEWARE THESE MESSENGERS!

Dan Lloyd

A review of Dr. Jacques Vallée's latest book, *Messengers of Deception**

FOR a long time now I have held certain views about UFOs that may surprise many people who believe that, because one is interested in UFO phenomena, one must necessarily be a believer in flying saucers.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. Back in 1968 I wrote a piece for the *Flying Saucer Review* (a misleading title for a journal which has been one of the pioneers in debunking the simplistic solution its title implies) in which I drew attention to the deceptive nature of the phenomena and showed how belief in flying saucers from outer space was a tribute to the seductive powers of Ahriman. I wrote of the stirring of certain sub-conscious faculties in modern man which, when fully awakened, would enable him to perceive his true connection with the planets of our solar system by means of a new form of body-free clairvoyance, and that what is manifesting today as a longing to explore the solar system in spaceships is nothing but a distortion of this sub-conscious awakening. If I may be allowed to quote myself, I wrote:

> "There could be no greater distortion of what is actually happening at the present time in man's relation to the spiritual world than to spread the delusion that physical machines are coming to earth with physical beings from outer space. In this way the march of materialism is maintained beyond the earth and a hallucinatory picture is held up before men's eyes. The fact is that the etheric world is beginning to unveil itself in this century, and to slumber away this supremely important event in human development by elaborating fantastic theories based on the present materialistic concepts of outer space will only lead man farther into the abyss which has been planned for him by the Ahrimanic beings."

Nothing that I have learned about the UFO phenomena since then has led me to change my opinion. In fact, the more one learns about the subject, the more clearly the hand of Ahriman can be seen at work.

It was therefore with great interest that I recently read a book by a French computer scientist, **Jacques Vallée,** called **Messengers of Deception,** for he documents an astonishing story that leaves little doubt that a process of "subliminal seduction" has been at work for decades to condition people to accept the reality of visitations from outer space.

Vallée believes there is a machinery of mass manipulation behind the UFO phenomenon which behaves like a conditioning process, using absurdity and confusion to achieve its goal while hiding its mechanism.

He speculates that there may be a genuine technology at work — but not the technology of "spacemen." This

* Published by And/Or Press, Berkeley, California, USA. Paperback $6.95.

> Mr. Lloyd's contribution is taken from Vol. 1, No. 1, of a new publication *Towards the Third Millenium* which he jointly edits, and publishes, on behalf of a group of anthroposophists. Readers are invited to take note of the short piece which precedes this article, and which was prepared as an introduction and explanation of a few things which may otherwise puzzle them.
>
> CHARLES BOWEN

technology, which could be holographic in nature, or of a kind which orthodox science does not comprehend, is a device which creates a distortion of the witness's reality. He believes it does so for a purpose, which is to project images or fabricated scenes designed to change our belief systems, and that the technology we observe is only the incidental support for a worldwide enterprise of deception.

The three main aspects of the phenomena are:

1. Physical Including pulsed light phenomena and electromagnetic radiation — and microwaves that distort witnesses' senses of reality.

2. Psychological Visions, hallucinations, physiological effects and long-term personality changes of witnesses.

3. Social Rapid spread of UFO belief throughout the world, together with a flow of books, periodicals, documentaries, and major films, which buttress this belief.

Vallée deals at length with the so-called "contactees" — those who claim to have been in close contact with visitors from outer space and to have received messages from them. He finds that these propagators of a new mythology are infiltrated by members of occult groups as well as government intelligence agents, who may be using the "contactees" for their own purposes. He asks whether the public is being deceived and led to false conclusions by someone — or some group — who is using UFO witnesses to propagate revolutionary new ideas which act as a conditioning process not over days or weeks but over the timespan of a generation.

He makes the point that many of the stories of trips in flying saucers have been duplicated in volunteers who underwent hypnotic regression. The cause of such fantasies could lie in complex processes of the human mind which can be triggered by suggestion, hypnosis, drugs and the physical tools of deception. In other words, those who claim to have been abducted by flying saucers are likely to have taken a non-physical "trip" controlled and guided by an unknown system that acts on human consciousness.

In reading Vallée's books it is difficult not to pinch oneself to make sure that one is not reading the script of a Hollywood movie. And yet the extraordinary facts he has unearthed, with their implications for human control and manipulation by skilled practitioners of the art of deception, should make us stop and think next time

someone jocularly asks: "Do you believe in flying saucers?"

The fostering of just belief serves the interests of some hidden group who have been at work for a very long time. Vallée is unable to point a finger at the group in question, but it should not be difficult for Anthroposophists to be alert to the fact that behind whatever human group may be active in this area there hovers the invisible but palpable presence of the Being who acts as their inspirer.

This is not to say, however, that UFO phenomena are not genuine. That inexplicable phenomena have been sighted in our skies for decades can hardly be contested by anyone who has studied the matter. But there is a world of difference between granting the existence of a mysterious phenomenon (some people prefer the term "inexplicable aerial phenomenon" to "unidentified flying object" with its loaded connotations) and attributing such a phenomenon to a flying machine.

The vast majority of "sightings" are of strange light effects in the sky, which can perform rapid manoeuvres, hover and disappear in the twinkling of an eye, leaving the observer with a sense of wonder and bafflement. The descriptions of such phenomena are, in my view, more consistent with processes occurring at the borderline between the etheric world and the physical world than of machines. We are all familiar with the strange behaviour of comets and meteors and recognise them as natural phenomena that fulfil a spiritual purpose. It seems to me that an unknown purpose of spiritual origin may well lie behind those manifestations of an etheric nature which have excited attention in our skies in recent times.

Such phenomena, however, must be sharply distinguished from the machine-like apparitions and attendant beings that have been reported from around the world, and which serve as the basis for belief in flying saucer contact.

Here Vallée's theory about "psychotronic" technology affecting the perceptions of witnesses is particularly interesting, for he believes it possible that the physical means may be in the hands of a human group to engineer all the effects which have been reported by deliberately staging events in selected areas before selected witnesses and then relying on the use of the media to spread news of the "event" far and wide.

If one has doubts about the existence of such technology, perhaps we should bear in mind that there have been reports that high military priority has been assigned both in the USSR and in the USA to research into ways and means to use psychic disciplines such as telepathy and astral projection as a counter-espionage technique, not to mention the more ominous uses of radiations for affecting the perceptions of people at a distance.

There can be little doubt that a dangerous form of occult practice is being employed in such pursuits. Vallée's big question is: what if such devices have already been perfected by some group or other who, for their own ends, are deliberately producing the distorted images of flying machines and their occupants in order to further the flying saucer mythology?

It is a question well worth pondering. Common to all the "contactees" is the belief in benign visitors from outer space, visitors who will one day land on the Earth and take over the reins from a humanity gone sadly astray and unable to solve its global problems.

Could it be, I wonder, that Ahriman will manifest in a guise that will fulfill all the expectations of these sky watchers with their distorted religious longings?

That is another question well worth pondering.

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN POSTAL RATES

The Post Office has inflicted on us further sweeping increases in postal rates for home and overseas mail, and particularly for airmail charges.

We are able to offset the additional burden as far as home and overseas (surface mail) are concerned, by withdrawing the 'discount' for a year's subscription. The subscription will therefore go up from £5.70 to £6.00 per annum.

In view of the continuing rise in the value of the pound sterling against the dollar, we regret we have also been forced to adjust the U.S. Dollar rates.

So the airmail addition for USA, Canada, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil etc., will now be £4.74 (US$11.75) per annum. For Australia, New Zealand etc., the addition will be £5.34 per annum, and for Middle East countries, £3.90 per annum.

Subscribers are recommended to consult the details, and suggestions made, at the foot of page ii of cover.

FSR BOOKSHELF — 7

New UFO books reviewed. . .

Janet & Colin Bord

ALLAN HENDRY'S definitive study of UFOs, **The UFO Handbook:** *A Guide to Investigating, Evaluating and Reporting UFO Sightings* (Sphere Books large-format paperback, £5.95, 300 pages) is based on his personal research into more than 1,300 UFO sightings reported to him during two years as chief investigator for the *International UFO Reporter.* It is the most objective and sensible book about UFOs ever published, but to many ufologists it will make depressing reading. Hendry reviews the different types of sightings, and shows convincingly that many (if not most) can be confidently attributed to natural phenomena (especially stars and planets), or man-made objects (especially planes — and in USA, ad planes). That these are so often seen by excited witnesses as "flying saucers" is a sign of the emotional hold the UFO idea has over people in the Western world.

Hendry is not debunking UFOs but rather he is exhorting us all to raise our critical standards and improve our investigation techniques. As he says in his conclusion: "I do not endeavour to argue that UFOs do not, in some form, exist; indeed, why shouldn't they? The twentieth century hardly understands everything that is seen in its complex skies. Personally, I *want* there to be anomalistic UFOs that defy the laws of physics for the simple reason that it would usher in a new scientific revolution. But with our current inability to fully draw the distinction between real UFOs and IFOs, fantasies or hoaxes, coupled with a heated emotional atmosphere, I can only assert that it is my *feeling* that some UFO reports represent truly remarkable events. . ." (p.285).

With its detailed coverage of all types of UFO sightings, including radar visuals and CE IIIs, and over 100 pages devoted to investigation tools (including hypnosis, lie detection, magnetic detectors and statistics), this is a book which should be read carefully by everyone who honestly wishes to begin to understand the UFO phenomenon. It is a well written book, not at all heavy going, and is illustrated with photographs and diagrams.

The persistent rumours, during the past 30 years, of crashed UFOs found with little charred bodies inside, have recently received fresh impetus from Leonard Stringfield's publications and lectures (see FSR Vol. 25 Nos.4, 5 & 6, for example), and **The Roswell Incident** by **Charles Berlitz & William L. Moore** (Grosset & Dunlap, New York, hardback, $10, 168 pages; UK hardback edition published January 1981 by Granada Publishing, £5.95) provides more fuel to heap upon the fires of speculation. Similar in approach to the authors' earlier *Philadelphia Experiment,* the central incident here is the discovery in July 1947 of some space debris on a remote ranch in New Mexico. It was taken to nearby Roswell air base and an enthusiastic public information officer issued a press release announcing that a crashed disc had been found. The previous week had seen a tremendous UFO flap across the USA, and the press and radio gave wide publicity to the release which the Air Force promptly quashed by announcing that the "crashed disc" was only a downed weather balloon. That much seems to be fact. The rest of the material in the book falls into the "rumours of rumours" category, often from unnamed witnesses — interesting but unsubstantiated.

If half of these rumours are accurate, it would seem that there are several caches of crashed discs, pickled spacemen and God knows what else hidden away in various top secret sites across the USA. In past years such ideas were easily dismissed as ridiculous, but now that the "silent majority" is slowly becoming aware that unscrupulous deception is one of the tools of power, we must all be prepared to think again. The material available to the authors was barely sufficient to make a book and has had to be thinly stretched and padded in places with associated but not strictly relevant UFO material. The result will probably be welcomed by nuts-and-bolters and derided by the paraphysical school, but it is likely to be of interest to many ufologists. The authors provide a bibliography and index, and there are some old press photographs of the principal participants.

Although apparently aimed at the teenage reader, **Earth's Secret Inhabitants** by **D. Scott Rogo & Jerome Clark** (Tempo Books/Grosset & Dunlap, New York, paperback, $1.95, 218 pages) will appeal to a much wider readership. UFOs and entities, "winged weirdos", "the mad gasser of Mattoon", Springheel Jack, phantom cats, monster birds, Bigfoot, and trolls. . . all are represented here, and in their closing chapter the authors give various explanations for the mysterious appearances of these "secret inhabitants" of the Earth. 29 illustrations include witness drawings and photographs of the things they have seen.

It is perhaps an indication of the growing interest in strange phenomena of all kinds that a new weekly partwork was launched in Britain in mid-October by Orbis Publishing. The title **The Unexplained** covers a wide variety of subject matter, and the first five issues under review contain articles on UFOs, ESP, man-beasts, hypnosis, spontaneous human combustion, black holes, telepathy, Kirlian photography, regression to past lives, the black madonna, clairvoyance, and sea monsters. Most of the articles are written by well-known authorities, including FSR editor Charles Bowen whose UFO series has a prominent position. Each issue is priced at 50p in the UK and contains 20 pages and 6 articles. There are many illustrations, in colour and black and white, and UK readers should have no difficulty in obtaining *The Unexplained* from their newsagent. It is also (or will be)

available in other parts of the world — Eire, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Europe, and the USA.

Colin Wilson has divided **Starseekers** (Hodder & Stoughton large-format hardback, £10.95, 272 pages), his study of man's discovery of the Universe, into three sections: Ancient Cosmology, The Era of Discovery, and The Exploding Universe. Astronomy enthusiasts will find this a thorough and readable investigation, enhanced by the beautiful design and production and many illustrations in black and white and colour.

Whether you favour the idea of parallel universes, or the extra-terrestrial hypothesis, when considering the origin of UFOs, **John Gribbin's** book **Timewarps** (Sphere paperback, £1.25, 180 pages) should be of compelling interest to every ufologist. Without the use of mathematics he explores the basic concepts of time and space, dealing succinctly with causality, relativity, and time dilatation. Could Black Holes provide a gateway into the future or other universes, he wonders? In order to illustrate otherwise complex ideas he uses the ingenious device of recounting these ideas as they have been employed in science-fiction plots. Perhaps some may consider this a superficial approach, but it is a way of making these concepts and their possibilities available to a wide audience of intelligent, non-mathematical readers. Dr. Gribbin's approach combines the precision of Western science with the breadth of Eastern philosophy, and his investigation includes Jung's syncronicity, J. W. Dunne's theories of time and space, and precognitive dreams, concluding with a sympathetic explanation of the I Ching.

As a finale he puts a question to this fount of ancient wisdom regarding his own book, and, as usual, receives a profound yet intriguing answer. John Gribbin's writing remains amazingly lucid even though he is dealing with the far-out complexities of modern physics, and this book will open up concepts never broached by the traditional approaches to space travel. It has a comprehensive bibliography and index, and is illustrated with diagrams and photographs.

The feeling that the definitive photograph will answer all criticism and for ever silence the vociferous sceptic is nowhere stronger than among the ranks of those who study strange phenomena. In **Photographs of the Unknown** (New English Library hardback, £7.95, 144 pages) **Robert Rickard** and **Richard Kelly** have gathered an unprecedented collection of photographs depicting the inexplicable, from fire-walking to poltergeists, from pictures of Christ to those of alien beings, and from water and land monsters to UFOs. Flipping through these pages, the student of Fortean phenomena realises that there are no definitive answers here, only more questions.

The authors have divided their subject matter into six sections under the headings "Strange Life" (water and land monsters), "Unusual Natural Phenomena", "UFOs", "Psychic Phenomena", "Paranormal Persons" (such as angels, aliens and ghosts) and "Mind Over Matter" (such as psychic surgery and poltergeists). Each section is sub-divided into individual phenomena, each of which is given a full double spread of the generous page size (8½ × 11½ inches) which contains up to six photographs and a clear explanatory text.

The UFO section is, perhaps not surprisingly, the longest, probably reflecting the range of material available to the authors, and contains some well-known and some lesser-known UFO images of all shades of probability including some admitted hoaxes. There is an intriguing series of colour pictures of the Canary Islands sighting of March 1979, rarely seen before in colour. The UFO pictures spread over into the section of "Unusual Natural Phenomena," providing for the investigator of UFO photographs some useful examples of ball lightning, lenticular clouds and "ghost lights." If we had to choose the three most startling images in this book of visual marvels they would be the Shiels colour shot of Nessie popping her head out of the water for a quick look-see (p.14), the blow-up from the Patterson 16mm movie of Bigfoot striding purposefully into the Californian forest (p.25), and the series of shots showing psychic surgeon Tony Agpaoa plunging his hands into a patient's gory innards (p.117).

The authors pass no judgements as to the authenticity of any particular image, though naturally they have weeded out the obvious hoaxes. They have instead provided readers with a concise and knowledgeable introduction to the history and idiosyncrasies of paranormal photography which succeeds in setting the stage for that which follows. Everyone who has any curiosity about our strange world, whether they consider themselves to be ufologist, psychic researcher, parapsychologist, Fortean researcher, or simply the "man in the street," will most certainly want to possess this incredible volume.

In **The Dark Gods** by **Anthony Roberts & Geoff Gilbertson** (Rider/Hutchinson paperback, £4.50, 266 pages) we enter a world peopled by demons, the ultra-terrestrials who appear here on earth as Men-in-Black, UFO entities, fairies, and other mystery characters. The authors draw heavily on occult lore in their study, and the case for the reality of evil UT forces *seems* to be overwhelmingly proved. However, closer examination of the evidence on which their thesis is based shows that it contains few reliable first-hand reports which can be checked. The Croglin Grange vampire story, for example, is now known to be highly dubious. Also there is too much reliance on the imaginings of the mentally unstable, on fiction, and on the eccentric beliefs of esoteric orders. In fact the authors are too uncritical in their selection of material. Facts are often overstated, for example UFOs are **not** "often seen hovering over. . .standing stones and 'sacred sites' in general" (p.109), and there is **not** a "preponderance of sightings over leys" (p.147). No back-up sources are quoted to support such "facts." Again, doubtful and unsupported statements such as the following are made: "Now the entities tend to instruct their followers to go to important ley convergences. . . to 'charge' these." (p.165).

There are also too many assumptions, for example that the figure in Mr. Templeton's photograph of his daughter is a spaceman. The caption to this picture reads: "Fireman Templeton's photograph of his daughter is an interesting parallel to spirit photographs. The entity this time is, of course, a space being." Space being? Mr. Templeton saw nothing when he took the picture, and all

we objectively see now is a vague shape in the sky behind the girl's head. With subjective vision this becomes the top half of a spacesuit-clad figure.

Such a wish to believe pervades this book. It also contains some small but niggling errors in names and book titles, even foreword-writer Colin Wilson is not free from error. The Reverend Donald Omand was **not** trying to rid Loch Ness of the monster when he carried out an exorcism there (p. 13). As he wrote in a letter to us: "I never exorcised the monster, as is supposed, but Loch Ness and the land immediately round it. My reason was to overcome the spirit of evil..."

From these criticisms it might be supposed that we do not favour Roberts' and Gilbertson's basic belief in the existence of UTs and the evil they engender. On the contraty, we feel that there may be more than a grain of truth in the idea. But this book fails to provide convincing evidence. It is also difficult to read in parts, Anthony Roberts being a supporter of "a rich and expressive use of literary flamboyance" (p. 53), whereas simplicity in writing, whether fact or fiction, should always be a writer's aim, if only for the sake of his readers. Paranoia is a state of mind to which the unwary ufologist can easily succumb, and this book is a lesson to UFO students to mix their studies with less heady pursuits and thereby retain a balanced outlook on life.

RESEARCH REPORT — 4

Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind

Jenny Randles

WHEN the movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* hit our screens in 1978 many people relatively unfamiliar with our subject saw the experiences epitomised therein as the ultimate in Ufology. That that is not the case, is illustrated by the recent emphasis on study of the next (and at the moment, the ultimate) kind of close encounter — code named the CE4. As an aside I might note that in my opinion the title of Mr. Spielberg's movie was a misnomer, as none of the events within it were a third kind encounter. Any sequel (and I gather one is in the pipeline) must surely not be CE3K (or 2) but CE4K. We shall see!

The Close Encounter of the Fourth Kind has several different interpretations at the moment. Coral and Jim Lorenzen use it purely for abductions, which seems fair enough. However, this definition is hardly commensurate with the true nature of the phenomenon. Abductions in reality are but a sub-class of the CE4 phenomenon. In Britain it has certainly become customary to refer to events where entities manifest inside the house (e.g. the famous Cynthia Appleton encounter ... see *The Humanoids*), along with similar related incidents, as CE4s. Indeed I have come to utilise this terminology to apply to *any* case of direct interaction between witness and apparently alien entity. This distinguishes such events from the CE3, which would merely involve the *observation* of entities. I feel that such a division is the most logical in view of our growing conception of the phenomenon. Mind you, in the process I have come to discover that the CE3 is consequently much more rare than might otherwise be thought! Most sightings of entities *do* involve some degree of contact, and appear not to be accidental.

Be that as it may there is a growing trend to study the CE4 in isolation from other facets of the UFO phenomenon. This is fine, provided any possible correlations are not forgotten, since specialisation of this nature is of value in such a complex field. In physics, for example, light, and radio waves, are in different parts of the electromagnetic-wave spectrum, as we now realise. However, there was ample justification for studying them separately, not simply because their effects and consequences are different, but also because such a breakdown facilitates overall understanding. Hence I find the modern approach worthwile.

On October 11, 1980, NUFON sponsored a conference, on the theme of the CE4 experience, at Dr Johnson's House, Birmingham. The hosts were the local groups UFOSIS (West Midlands) and PARASEARCH (Staffordshire). I would like to discuss some of the implications of that day's events, which it seems were well appreciated by all those who attended. Indeed the crowded hall included many of the leading researchers in this aspect of British Ufology, such as Paul Deveraux, Hilary Evans, Bob Rickard, John Rimmer and Roger Sandell, in addition to the NUFON and UFOIN teams.

There was a packed programme, which is always an understandable failing at such events. One seemed to be constantly under seige from a barraage of faces, and the process is exhausting although usually quite rewarding.

First off was Kevin McClure, a principal organiser of the UFO study team of the Society for Psychical Research. His breadth of appraisal was illustrated by his study of a variety of paranormal experiences during a wave in 1904-1905 which accompanied the Welsh religious revival. Incidents which his extensive research has dug out include many typical UFO sightings, which seemed to be central to a catalytic witness (the woman who led the revival), and even featured what may be the earliest MIB experience on record! Such work unleashes a whole new dimension of the UFO mystery and makes one wonder just what else might be discovered if we widened our sights a little and dug deeper into past events. The correlation between the religious manifestations, where visions and auditory contacts occurred, and the UFO

phenomena of the time might be spurious, but the evidence that it is not is strong and certainly suggests the need for more work.

Martin Keatman, another UFOIN member, whose work has often appeared in *Flying Saucer Review*, then discussed his concept of "Acceptance Levels" as applied to the CE4. This is something other researchers have noted. Ann Druffel in a recent FSR article, for example, wrote of what she called "detail reflectivity".

Martin proposed that the UFO phenomenon (whatever that is — although he appears to suspect it is external and alien) makes contact with selected winesses in a specific manner. It uses their own inner concepts of what alien intelligence should be like to cloak itself in a format that becomes acceptable to that person. Consequently, Martin suggests, it is not the actual sighting itself that counts. It is a waste of time to compare UFO entities by virtue of hair colour or height. Each case is unique and related to the personal concepts of the witness, although there may well be basic themes that are common to us all — just as Dr Carl Jung suggested in his work. What we ought to be looking at is the underlying message that exists within the cases. The phenomenon is apparantly transferring data. How it is doing so does not matter. It may well use other methods apart from UFO CE4s, e.g. spirit messages through mediums. What does count is just what that data is.

The next paper came from Andy Collins. UFOIN member and noted researcher on cases such as the Aveley abduction.* By speculative and controversial arguments he tried to suggest what this underlying theme might be. He explained how attempts to draw together many divergent — or seemingly divergent — "new age" revelations such as prophecies, UFO contactee messages, seance utterances, and so forth, hint at a coming world crisis and a golden age to follow. He suggested that this was the purpose of the CE4 experience (and all the others... the CE4 being just a modern format for a longer standing phenomenon). Naturally he was not in a position to say whether there was any objective reality behind these communications, or what their initiating source might be, but he built up a reasonably convincing argument that this "new age" philosophy had something yo do with the answers.

Andy went on to introduce what for many was the highlight of the afternoon. John Day, primary witness in the Aveley abduction, had agreed to speak in public for the first time, and to be cross-examined by the audience. He related the basics of his, and the rest of his family's 1974 alleged meeting with aliens. He explained what he thought it all meant. In question time he dealt confidently with the various points put to him, and affirmed his conviction that the experience had seemed totally real. Attemps were made to draw out subjective aspects but these were not successful. On the whole it was difficult to conceive that John had not physically been taken on board a UFO — although he was just as aware of the paradoxes in his situation as were most of the audience.

*[The account of the Aveley abduction will be found in FSR Vol. 23, No. 6, and Vol. 24, No. 1, of 1977 & 1978, both of which are still available — ED.]

Next came Frank Johnson, whose book *The Janos People* was published by Neville Spearman that day. This book will be reviewed shortly in FSR and as the talk was basically just a presentation of this complex CE4 case (which has considerable parallels with the Aveley abduction) I will not say other than it provoked many questions and some lively controversy.

It was my task to round off the proceedings. My paper was based on a statistical analysis of seventy CE4 cases, which I had subdivided into four categories. TYPE A involved contact which was immediately recalled; TYPE B was similar except that the contact occurred within the witness environment without standard UFO behaviour (e.g. bedroom visitor contacts) TYPE C was a typical abduction (i.e. contact which involved repressed memory), and TYPE D concerned contact by non-standard means (e.g. telepathy, or through automatic writing).

The number of cases was limited and conclusions on such a basis must be just preliminary. Of course it should be recalled that collecting seventy CE4 cases took quite a bit of effort, due to their comparative rarity, but I think that the results were most illuminating. Just a few major points were as follows:

*The average number of witnesses per case for the CE4 was 1.30 as compared with 2.19 for a random sample of Medium Definition UFO experiences. Of the types the one with the lowest total (i.e. most subjective) was the bedroom visitor (1.16), whereas the Type C abductions had 1.62 witnesses per case.

*There was predominance of young witnesses and 69% of the Type C abductees were in the 16-25 age bracket.

*Type A events were evenly distributed time-wise, with significant numbers of events during the day (in contradiction to Vallée's time-law). Type B events peaked very markedly indeed at about 02.00 to 03.00 (deep sleep stages) and Type C (the abductions) occurred almost exclusively late at night (around 23.00).

There were many other points that emerged which have certainly led me on to further ideas for research, and some useful suggestions came from the audience.

On the whole I think the day was an important contribution to our understanding of the CE4 experience and, by virtue of this, our understanding of the UFO phenomenon as a whole. I would personally like to see more conferences devoted to specific topics, gathering together all the latest ideas for consideration and discussion. This is the only way we are going to progress.

* * * * *

The proceedings of the conference are to be published; it will be announced in FSR when they are available.

* * * * *

: If you have any research projects or results you would like promoting in this column please contact me at:

8 Whitethroat Walk, Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire. WA3 6PQ.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

The truth about UFOs and radar over New Zealand

Dear Sir, — I have been reading an article in your magazine [FSR Vol. 26, No. 2, 1980] by Kevin Berry on *The Kaikoura Controversy* which, unfortunately, perpetuates some inaccuracies that were introduced during the initial reporting of the incident in the newspapers.

The true facts of the "happening" on the night of December 21/22, 1978 (somewhat abridged) are as follows.

At 0025 the flight service officer at Blenheim airport rang the Air Traffic Control Centre at Wellington to enquire if they knew of any aircraft in the vicinity of Cape Campbell as they could see lights in the sky in that direction.

Wellington knew of no aircraft — (NOTE: at night all aircraft are required to notify Air Traffic Control of their intention to fly) but had targets on the radar in that direction.

Wellington checked for weather balloons, ships — some targets were positively identified as ships — but the unknown echoes still remained.

At 0050 Wellington's attention was drawn to an echo tracking S.E. from Wellington at a constant 120 kts to a position 65 miles out, where it stopped but remained "painting" on radar — even with MTI switched in.

MTI — moving target indicator — eliminates all targerts from the screen except those having a radial velocity of less than 15 kts: hence puzzle number one, for the object was holding its position on radar: therefore if stationary if should not have shown, so — was it spinning maybe?

Argosy SAE piloted by John Randle took off from Blenheim for Christchurch at 0110 and on the way South saw some unusual lights in the Clarence area, which they described as single lights about the colour and intensity of a car's headlights pointing downwards, they did **not** see the target at 65 miles from Wellington, although this moved towards the aircraft to about 15 miles East of its position, but **did** see it on their radar.

Argosy SAF piloted by Vern Powell left Blenheim for Christchurch at 0314. The aircrew were asked by Wellington to look for the objects in the Clarence area, and saw these, but then Wellington saw the "large" target move 20 miles West towards the aircraft at 0325.30 secs. It was seen by the pilots who described it as a massive big light — sometimes red, but mostly a brilliant white — about 2-3,000ft above them.

The aircraft levelled at 10,000ft and the light then appeared level with them. Then for the next 10 or so minutes during which the Argosy flew straight and level at 210 kts the object "paced" the aircraft 25 miles to the East of it.

Then, when 60 miles out of Christchurch, the crew saw a return on the **aircraft's** radar which left a trail (which when seen visually by the crew was described as intense blue-white like deep ice light) and which crossed 15 miles on their screen in 5 seconds = 180 miles per minute.

Argosy SAE left Christchurch at 0310 bound for Auckland flying the reciprocal of the Southbound route in order to "have another look."

Between Kaikoura and Clarence several radar and visual sightings of lights were made, some of which may have been fishing vessels, but some were moving at speeds of up to 130 knots.

Then at approx 0400 Wellington advised the Argosy of 5 strong targets in a line behind the aircraft, whereupon the aircraft did an orbit, and saw the lights — again described as being like car headlights — and also a powerful flash of five seconds which lit up the sea.

And that is, of neccesity, a brief summary of EXACTLY what happened on the night of December 21/22, 1978.

Should any of your readers wonder about my qualifications for correcting Mr. Berry's article, I can only say that I was the Senior of the two radar controllers on duty in the Wellington Air Traffic Control Centre that night, and I must say the mood that night was such that after a while both my colleague Andy Herd and I felt "I wonder what's going to happen next!"

Should any of your readers be interested in a full narrative of both these events and those of December 31 when the UFO seen was filmed may I refer them to the book *The Kaikoura UFOs* by Neil Illingworth and Captain Startup, published by Hodder and Stoughton, which is a description of the events taken from the recollections of all of us involved, from Air Traffic Control Logbooks and radio tapes — both of which are legal documents.

It can be obtained from:—

HUYSER BOOKSHOP,
THE WILLIS STREET VILLAGE COMPLEX,
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

at a cost including surface mail of NZ$18 (add another NZ$7 for airmail postage).

Thank you, Best wishes
Yours sincerely
John Cordy
50 Strathmore Avenue,
Strathmore Park,
Wellington 3,
New Zealand.
November 14, 1980

P.S. I have no connections with the Huyser bookshop other than that of a customer.

Zanfretta's contamination?

Dear Sir, — May I refer to the article "Italian night-watchman kidnapped by UFO," which was published in *Flying Saucer Review*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (Spring 1980) and Mr. A. Ryan's related letter (Vol. 26, No. 3, p. 21). It is indispensable to specify that the "Zanfretta case" is still under inquiry by some Italian researchers, although the case is maintained as "egoistic" cover-up by some local ufologists. At this time, in consequence of the "delicacy" and complexity of the case, it's impossible to express any judgement on the objective reality of Zanfretta's experiences.

After the first encounter referred to by FSR in the Boccone article, it seems that Zanfretta has experienced other incidents of abduction, but very few particulars are known to us in consequence of the above-mentioned cover-up. It is true that Zanfretta's entity is quite similar to the "monster" that appeared in the old film *The Creature from the Black Lagoon* (1954), and this had already been remarked upon by some Italian UFO researchers.

It is almost certain that Zanfretta was really sincere when he related his "experiences" (even if it is really difficult to estimate the role played by "subjectivity" in his "encounters"), but there is the possibility that he has been, unconsciously, plagiarized* by the persons who have taken an interest in the case for various motives.

As already said, it is impossible, for the moment, to express any judgement on the case. I think that these exact statements are necessary to avoid

creating easy enthusiasms or wrong interpretations by the foreign researchers who cannot know the entire story of this complex and atypical abduction case.
Yours sincerely,
Paolo Toselli
Via J. dal Verme 7
15100 Alessandria, Italy.
November 10, 1980.

[Does our correspondent mean "contaminated"? — ED]

Omission corrected

Dear Mr. Bowen, — A footnote was added to the manuscript for my article on "UFO Odours and Origins," FSR Vol. 26, No. 4: Angel's hair cannot be Nitrogen pentoxide. The vapour pressure of N_2O_5 increases from about 51mm at 0°C to atmospheric pressure at about 30°C. Thus, N_2O_5 disappears rapidly near room temperature. Moreover, it is extremely reactive with atmospheric moisture, changing over to liquid nitric acid.
Sincerely,
Thomas M. Olsen
9652 N. 31st Avenue, G7,
Phoenix, Arizona 85021,
United States of America.
December 15, 1980.

World Round-up item: "Did UFO attack oil plant?" (FSR Vol. 26, No.4)

Dear Editor, — The report [*which FSR reprinted*] was quoted in many Australian newpapers. A copy of the original *New Straits Times* account is enclosed, together with a Reuters statement saying that the report is a hoax.

The last line of the *New Straits Times* reads "Datuk Alagendra was not available for comment. He had previously stated that the fire was caused by a mosquito coil" (or words to that effect)*

Keep up the good work.
Yours sincerely,
Michael Hough
UFO Research,
P.O. Box 6 Lane Cove,
New South Wales 2066, Australia.
December 20, 1980.

[I confirm that the photocopy was indecipherable at this point — ED]

The Reuters statement referred to in Dr. Hough's letter was signed by Mr. David Skinner, Chief Representative for Malaysia, and was in reply to a Mr. J. M. Brill who, presumably, had written on behalf of UFO Newsletter Service (Farish and Dyke) of Arkansas, USA who — again presumably — had sent a copy to Dr. Hough.

"...This was not a Reuter report but came from another Agency.

"I did some checking today and found out, by accident, that this story was a hoax inflicted by a person of my acquaintence on a gullible reporter that this particular person had found to be irksome. There was a fire but the UFO attack story was a definite hoax..."

On classifications of phenomena

Sir, — Lade's new definitions (FSR., Vol. 26, No. 4; p. 26) are less than helpful; moreover, he fails to give references to Hynek and to what he calls "the recent attempt" (by whom?).

"Extraterrestrial": as used by Lade begs the question; these "objects" (?) suggest different things to different people.

"Illusion" is a psychological term meaning "false perception" (forget about conjuring). A hoax is something different; namely, deliberate chicanery.

"Supernatural": a theological term misused by the ignorant to refer to paranotmal phenomena. By Lade's unacceptable definition *all* UFOs and "Saucers" could be called "supernatural."

"Obfuscator": e.g., LADE, John M.
Yours etc.,
Manfred Cassirer
(Formerly Chairman, Physical Phenomena Committee, Society for Psychical Research.)
December 10, 1980.

Speculations on the UFO phenomenon and the Vatican

Dear Mr. Bowen, — Many UFO buffs have accused the American authorities, especially the CIA, of concealing the truth about the UFO phenomenon. Such accusations are groundless and smack of paranoia. The U.S. government is saddled with a host of other far more pressing problems. The job No.1 of the CIA is to fight its Soviet counterpart, the KGB, and not to waste its precious time and American taxpayers' money chasing an elusive paraphysical phenomenon such as the UFO which, moreover, does not constitute any danger to the United States.

It is the Vatican that maintains the ostrich-like attitude toward the UFO phenomenon. The Fatima affair (the joint appearance of the Virgin Mary and a UFO on October 13, 1917) and many other similar apparitions to date have demonstrated beyond dispute that the Marian apparitions and the UFO phenomenon are caused by one and the same Immaterial Entity which the Vatican calls "God" and I call "Paraphysical Intelligence." The Vatican must know quite a lot about the UFO phenomenon but keeps mum for understandable reasons. The disclosure of the truth about the UFO phenomenon will deal a death-blow not only to the Catholic dogmas but to Christianity as a whole.

We must discard the false idea that the Marian apparitions symbolize something holy or sacred. Just like the UFO phenomenon, they are nothing more than a metaphysical farce staged in a masterly manner by the Paraphysical Intelligence which amuses itself by manipulating us at will. This Intelligence also entertains us with lake monsters (such as the famous Loch Ness monster), humanoids, gnomes, leprechauns, ape-man (such as Bigfoot or Snowman), men-in-black, ghost airplanes/helicopters/ships and all sorts of so-called paranormal phenomena: mediumism (Jesus Christ, Muhammad, Buddha, Uri Geller, Matthew Manning, Edgar Cayce, etc.), haunted houses, poltergeist, possession, spontaneous combustion, vampirism (such as animal mutilations), the Bermuda Triangle, miracle healing (at Lourdes, Fatima, etc.), stigmata, reincarnation, pseudo-coincidences, etc. But we humans are just too stupid to understand all these paraphysical jokes.

All religions thus rest upon very shaky foundations and will collapse like houses of cards at the slightest revelation of the Truth. Hence the sheer absurdity of religious fanaticism such as the one that convulses Northern Ireland and animates Ayatollah Khomeini as well as the born-again evangelist/creationist movement in the United States.
Your sincerely,
Julian H. Kaneko
18 rue Le Corbusier,
CH-1208 Geneva,
Switzerland.
October 2, 1980

Queries on the Theory of Relativity

Dear Sir, — With reference to Mr. Julian H. Kaneko's letter in Mail Bag. (FSR Vol. 26, No. 3), concerning his disbelief in "Retrievals of the Third Kind," I feel that the point he raises concerning interstellar travel difficulties by "nuts and bolts" spacecraft, because of Einstein's Theory of Relativity, may be worthy of further discussion. Although I am no expert in the field of physics, I would like to raise a question about the theory that, to me, does not seem to make sense. As far as I understand it, the theory implies that the closer an object approaches the velocity of light, (3×10^8m. per sec) The greater will become its mass, until, at 3×10^8m. per sec., this would become infinite, thus rendering it impossible to exceed, or even reach, that velocity.

I seem to recall reading some years ago

that it had been calculated that the total amount of sunlight photons falling upon the Empire State Building in New York on an average summer day would be equal in mass to about three sheets of typing paper, (approx. 10gm.) which is a very small amount. Yet, according to the Relativity Theory, it should be infinite, since the light has struck the building at the critical velocity.

Does this not mean that the theory is invalid on that point, and that the alien spacecraft could, if necessary, exceed this velocity after all?

If so, this might put it into the category of "paraphysical" phenomena, as Mr. Kaneko believes, since the time dilation effects of near-light velocities predicted by Einstein have been proved correct by the study of comparative half-life measurements of identical radioactive substances, using a centrifuge technique.

Thus, what might seem like ten thousand years on earth might seem a matter of hours or days to the interstellar astronauts, so they would, almost literally "have all the time in the world" to reach us. Maybe, if there is a flaw in my argument, Mr. Kaneko or another reader will be able to enlighten me as to what it is.

At any rate, is it really logical to automatically assume that, just because a few of these craft have crashed, they would be incapable of interstellar flight?

It is a bit like saying that the American-manned lunar flights of the late sixties and early seventies were completely foolproof. But we all recall, surely, the hazards that were faced by the crew of Apollo 13!

Yours sincerely,
Maurice G. Jackson
26 New North Road,
Attleborough, Norfolk.
October 8, 1980.

CIA cigar?

Dear Sir, — I wonder if any other FSR reader noticed an interesting article in the *Sun* newpaper a few weeks ago? Apparently the CIA admitted that the U.S.A. had a 50 to 60ft. long aircraft, which is invisible to radar, and which had flown operationally over the U.S.S.R. This left me with three interesting thoughts.

1. No longer can the USAF debunk visual sitings of UFOs should there be no radar traces to back them up;
2. Did the technology for this evolve from a crashed UFO retrieval?
3. The "Philadelphia Experiment" must surely be seen in a new light with the disclosure of this information.

Yours faithfully
I. M. Hammond
7 Eaton Road,
Boston, Lincolnshire.
October 5, 1980.

A "bash" back at Mr. Clarke

Sir, — No doubt many UFOlogists (me included) would have, with great interest tuned in to ITV on November 4, 1980, for Arthur C. Clarke's "bash" at UFOs.

Mr. Clarke's conclusion was that UFOs don't exist on the evidence that earth's radar, monitoring the skies, doesn't detect them leaving or entering our earth's atmosphere.

May I comment on this conclusion: earth's radar is not programmed to pick up such objects or else it would pick up every piece of space debris, and meteors, and the screens would be full of unwanted information, so hindering the monitoring of the all important satellites.

Having said that, it's still possible the UFOs might not even come from outside the earth (as goes the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis — ETH); they could come from inside the earth or from secret bases on it.

Many UFOs are seen entering or leaving the water (¾ of this planet is water and who knows what goes on down there). These craft are often refered to as Unidentified Submarine Objects (USO) and it should be remembered the famous Hickson and Parker abduction took place near water.

They could even come from other dimensions or from the future, who knows.

So come on Arthur C., don't dismiss UFO's on such flimsy evidence; remember the witnesses (many of whom are highly technical people — scientists included) and the photographs and films of these objects in flight.

After all that I must say that, apart from our friend's narrow-mindedness, I found the programme interesting and enjoyable — especially the report on the Livingston, near Edinburgh, incident, involving Bob Taylor, who encountered a UFO and occupants (??) in a lonely wood.

Keep up the good work on your interesting and imformative magazine.

Yours sincerely
S. Leadbetter
16 Beach Road,
Fleetwood,
Lancashire, FY7 8PT.
November 29, 1980.

THE ANTHROPOMORPHIC ENTITY AT VILLA CARLOS PA2 *(Continued from page 17)*

his gestures in any way feminine.

g) In the opinion of María Elodia, the entity was a "being of flesh and bone." There was nothing about him to suggest that he was a mechanical doll or a robot. He did not resemble a TV image, but something completely material that was walking along in contact with the ground.

h) The fingers of his right hand and his toes emitted small beams of light of a sort of pale blue colour. The beams did not produce a luminous aura around the end of his arms and feet, but seemed to come from his fingernails and toenails — if he had any. (If he had toenails they were of course not visible, being hidden by the one-piece garment.)

These beams of light were of a pale blue shade for a distance of up to two or three centimetres from the end of each hand or foot, i.e., in the area closest to the fingers and toes, but then assumed a whitish tinge, until at about a distance of ten or fifteen centimetres the beams were dispersed. These light beams were permanent, not intermittent.

The left hand of the entity, which grasped the sphere, did not appear to produce these beams. For when the light of the sphere was extinguished María Elodia did not see any beams coming from that hand. But the beams of light from the feet and from the right hand remained visible right up to the entity's departure from the room.

i) On the back of the right hand the entity was wearing what looked like a sort of gauntlet covering the four fingers, leaving the thumb free (Figure 15). It was of a dark brown hue and seemed to be attached to the fourth finger by a sort of ring or handle. It looked as though made of leather and was about 10 cms wide and about 2 cms deep.

j) The entity never ceased for a single moment the to-and-fro swinging movement of his left arm bearing the

(Continued on page 30)

sphere. The frequency of the swinging movement was about one second for the whole arc described by the arm, so that the sphere returned to the same position every two seconds (Figures 16 and 17).

V. Some details of the Sphere and of the Coherent Beam of Light

1) The Sphere

a) The diameter of the sphere was about 20 cms.

b) The entity held it with all five fingers. The eyewitness noticed no handle on it.

c) The sphere had a glassy appearance and on its upper part (not covered by the entity's hand) there were numerous small truncated cones, each about one centimetre high. Through these protuberances came beams of pale blue light which at a distance of 15 or 20 cms then coalesced into one single beam. From that point on, the beam took on a white colouring (Figure 18).

d) So long as the light was coming from it, the sphere looked like a pale blue glass globe. When its light was extinguished (see Phase 5) it turned to a dark blue colour, still having the appearance of glass. It was only then that the eyewitness observed the small truncated cones.

e) In the opinion of the eyewitness, the sphere seemed to be a sort of sensor or detector, since its light apparently went out when it registered the approach of her father.

2) The Coherent Beam

In addition to the details already set forth above, we think it proper to mention the following points:—

i) The luminous beams coming from the truncated cones coalesced — along one single direction — at a distance of 15-20 cms from the point of emergence, forming a tubular beam of some 20 cms diameter. The contours of the tubular beam were perfectly defined; there was no lateral dispersal of light (Figure 18). This coherent light beam was directed straight ahead of, or behind, the entity, according to the direction in which the sphere moved (as when one points a lighted torch forwards or backwards).

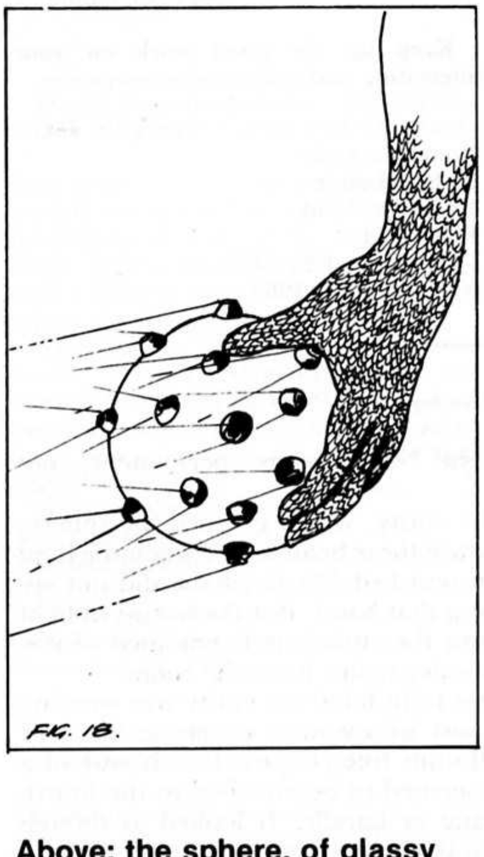
ii) Throughout the whole duration of the phenomenon, the coherent light beam maintained the same diameter along its entire length. Its light was permanent, not intermittent.

iii) The eyewitness was unable to see whether the end of the light beam was truncated or not.

iv) The light of the beam was far brighter than the light coming from the entity's feet and right hand.

v) Due to the pendular motion imparted to the sphere, the light beam was not directed at one single point, but swept the various areas (walls and floor) embraced by the arc described by the entity's left hand.

During the first three phases, while the entity was standing facing the counter (and with his back to the main entrance of the motel) María Elodia noticed that when the



Above: the sphere, of glassy appearance and an estimated 20cm in diameter, and bearing numerous truncated cones from which came short beams of pale blue light.

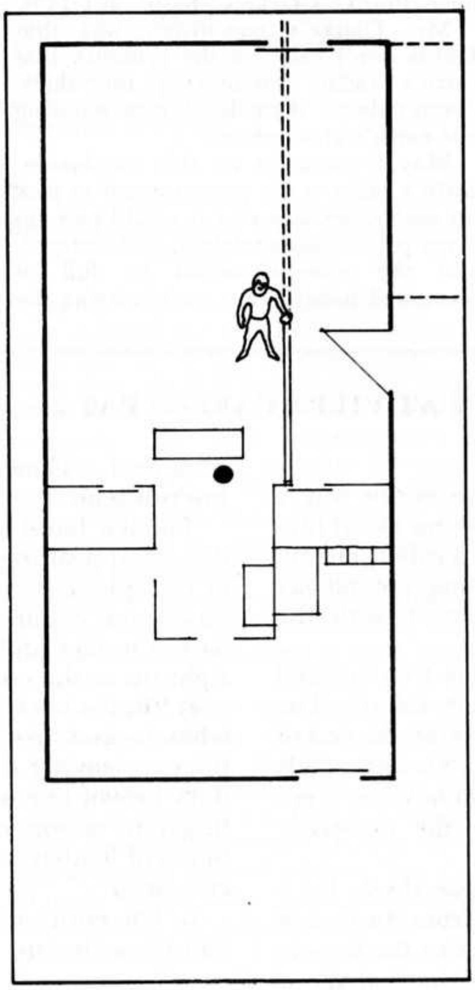


Figure 19

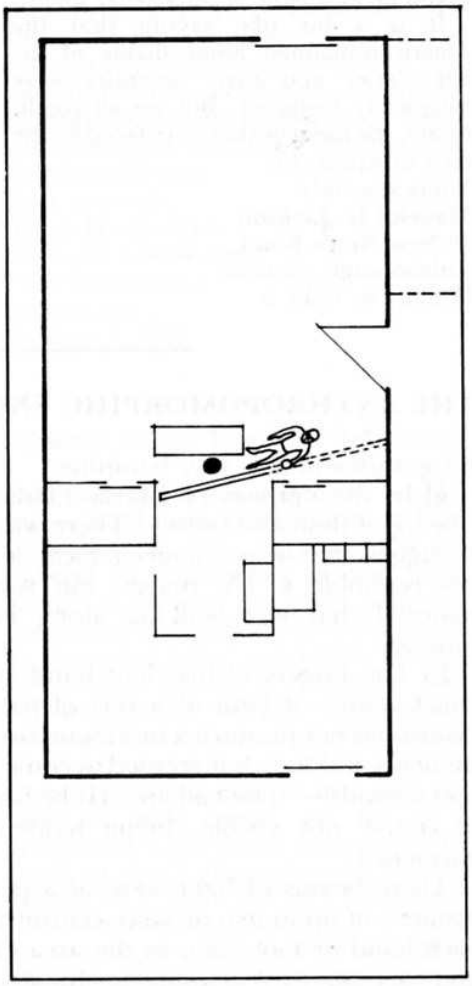


Figure 20

left arm of the entity swung the sphere towards the back, the coherent beam of light passed through the front windows of the motel and out over the street (Figure 19).

vi) When the entity approached the right-hand flank of the counter (Phase 4) the beam of light never struck María Elodia, but shone on to the wall to her left (see Figure 20).

VI. Complementary details

There are a number of additional features relating to the appearance of this humanoid entity which we think it of interest to record:—

a) The entire phenomenon was totally silent. María Elodia heard no sounds or noises whatsoever other than the voice inside her ears. Nor did she address a single word to the entity.

b) María Elodia detected no particular odour either before, during, or after the apparition.

c) Likewise she detected no sensation of either heat or cold.

d) No change was observed in the supply of electrical current to the motel.

e) The motel contained no guests at the time, the last two having just been seen out by María Elodia at 1.02 a.m. as already stated.

f) No footprints were found anywhere.

g) No parallel phenomena were noticed in any objects or utensils in the motel (i.e., for example, sparks or flashes from metal objects, taps, door-handles, etc.) nor any telekinetic phenomena involving furniture or objects in general — the sole exceptions being the apparent displacement of María Elodia from where she had initially been standing to the counter, her two slow-motion "falls" and the closing of the side door after the entity's departure.

h) María Elodia was not wearing a watch at the time of the episode. But she observed no irregularity in the alarm clock at which she had glanced a few minutes before the onset of the episode.

i) Over the following days nothing abnormal was observed in the growth of the plants in the motel.

j) María Elodia had taken no alcoholic drink before the happening. She was not worried or preoccupied about any sort of personal or family or economic problem.

k) Since the incident she has noticed the appearance of no mark, or wart, or special colouration of any kind anywhere on her skin.

MINI-ENTITIES AT KUANTAN AIR BASE

A newspaper account of a bizarre "believe it or not" CE 3 case in Malaysia

Ahmad Jamaludin

SOMETIME in 1975 or 1976 there was some excitement in Kuantan, Malaysia, when a strange encounter with a 3-inch-tall man-like creature was reported. The incident occurred about 9 miles from the town of Kuantan. And to add to the excitement, the small UFO which ferried the tiny entity is said to have landed right in the Royal Malaysian Air Force Base there.

There were three young witnesses to the encounter. The third witness, not mentioned in the newpaper account below, is known to be still schooling in Kuantan. I have tried to locate this witness and at this time of writing have still not succeeded. The whereabouts of the other two witnesses is not known and it is conceivable that they have moved to other Air Force installations in the country with their parents.

Until the third witness can be located for the complete story, I present below the newspaper report which was forwarded to me by a friend and with the date of the newspaper report missing. It appeared on the front page of the *New Straits Times* published in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The report entitled "Believe it or Not" had unfortunately omitted to mention the UFO. I have tried to contact the reporter of this item but unfortunately he resigned a few years ago, and is now working somewhere in the government departments. Below is the short account of the incident as it appeared in the paper.

"Kuantan, Thursday — A 3-inch-tall creature said to resemble a human being, has become the talk of the RMAF base here since its reported sighting, by a schoolboy two days ago. The story has also spread to the town.

"Paul Lazario, 9, a pupil at the RMAF Primary School said he saw the creature two days ago near a drain at the RMAF field. It was stopping to drink water, he added. 'I caught it but it escaped from my grip and ran into some undergrowth near the drain,' he said.

" 'It had two feelers on the head and held a steel-like rod in its hand. A pistol was hanging from its waist. It was brown in colour and looked like a man,' he added.

"Paul said he related the incident to his friends and in the evening three of them went to the spot near the field. And according to schoolboy Neo Lee Ann, 12, all three saw the creature moving about on the area. 'When it saw us, it ran into the undergrowth and disappeared' he said.

"A teacher of the school, Mr. Yew Kim Guan, said when he heard the story he went to investigate. 'There was no sign of the creature in the area, but I saw a Red

Indian-like wigwam beautifully weaved out of grass. It was partly crushed,' he said.

"He added he didn't know whether to believe the story."

That is the end of the newspaper account of what only could be described as a bizarre affair.

Comment

As far as humanoid encounters are concerned, there is something strange going on in Malaysia. All the entities encountered have measured 6 inches or lower. There is not a single reported encounter with the UFO occupant more than 6 inches tall. To add further to this embarrassment, 90 per cent of the witnesses have been schoolchildren. At the time of writing I have documented 24 cases: about 50 per cent of the tiny entities were sighted with their little UFOs, and the remainder without the UFOs. If we reject these claims as hallucination or hoaxes, then I can close shop with this UFO business since there is nothing to report of significance. If we were to accept that the young witnesses were reporting what they actually saw, then we have a very important clue to work with.

WITNESS BURNED BY PASSING UFO

Tony Green

Our contributor is investigations co-ordinator of the Worcester group SKYSCAN, and a recent acquisition to the UFOIN team.

March 13, 1980. Haselor, Warwickshire. CE1 Physio Level C

THIS is a report of a frightening close encounter with an unusual subsidiary effect.

The witness wishes anonymity, but can be described as follows: aged 31, working as a sub-contractor, and living in Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire, the beautiful city famed for its close association with the bard, William Shakespeare. We shall refer to our witness as Nick.

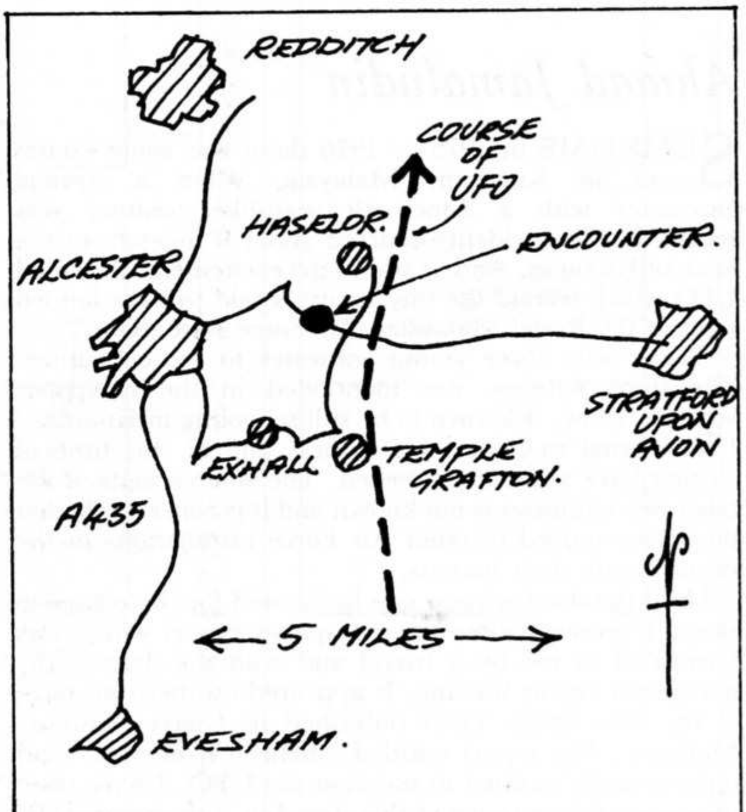
Nick was travelling by car from Worcester to Stratford. It was a bright, cold night, with many stars visible. There was no wind. He had left Worcester some thirty minutes earlier, and it was approximately 19.50 GMT as he proceeded along the A422 about three miles east of the ancient Roman town of Alcester. The incident occurred just before a minor road turning off to Temple Grafton, amidst open countryside, with the nearest habitation the hamlet of Haselor, a mile to the north.

Suddenly Nick became aware of something unusual in the south-eastern sky. He quickly realised that he might well be looking at a UFO. He slowed down but the object streaked by, heading across his field of view from right to left and then vanishing. This movement only took a few seconds.

The object was cigar-shaped with elongated tips and had a steady red glow on either end. Basically it was white and of similar brightness to the full moon when seen on a bright night. It was impossible for Nick to estimate the size, but it appeared immense. At closest approach (which seemed very close but could obviously have been any distance) it filled the whole windscreen area of the car! Nick assesses that if it were the same size as the largest aircraft he knows — a *Galaxy* transporter — then it would have been as close to him as 1000 feet. Aircraft are one of his main interests, and so he is familiar with viewing various types under all conditions.

At no point during the encounter was there any detectable sound. However the car engine remained on — there were no effects either on this or the headlights. Even so the size and apparent proximity presumably should have generated some sound from an object such as an aircraft.

The object had swept by at an estimated angle of elevation of 25° and was lost to view only momentarily by the side of the car. Within a few seconds Nick was able to pick it out again by craning his neck to the side, and saw it once more in the north east (his left), now moving away from him at great speed.



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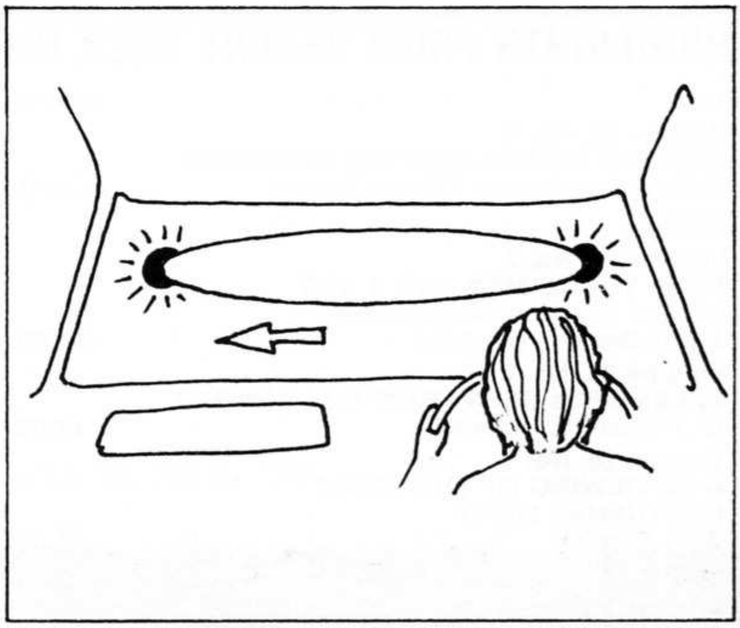
Artwork: Terence Collins

Coincident with this second sighting he noticed that his steering wheel, which he was gripping, had suddenly become unbearably hot. He had to wrench his hands from it but nevertheless suffered a nasty burn which left a mark on his left hand. This required treatment afterwards and took some days to heal up. Meanwhile the steering wheel returned to normal quite rapidly and he was able to proceed. While this was happening the object had disappeared.

This unusual effect is not entirely without precedent. Readers are referred to the terrifying close encounter at Barnard Castle, Durham, in June 1977, reported in FSR Vol. 23, No. 5. Here a motorcyclist found his machine suddenly turning very hot (in fact evaporating from its surface a great deal of excess water, as it was raining heavily). He also suffered burns.

One further correlation concerns the location. The incident took place within 1½ miles of the village of Exhall. In FSR Vol. 24, No. 4 Ken Phillips reported an unusual sighting made at this point in December 1977. Here an object was seen to leave a hole in the cloudbase after its disappearance.

The only explanations which spring to mind in this present case are either a meteor or ball lightning. The latter seems to be refuted by the huge size, and total lack of other witnesses of a meteor that large and so early in the evening; on a clear night the chance that nobody else should report it is virtually zero. As for ball lightning, there were no conducive weather conditions. It remains a puzzle as to how heat should be generated only in the steering wheel, and not be felt by the witness on his unprotected face, or on other parts of his body. Comments on this factor would be appreciated — c/o Jenny Randles, 8 Whitethroat Walk, Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6PQ.



The huge object, with ends glowing red, filled the whole of the windscreen of the car.

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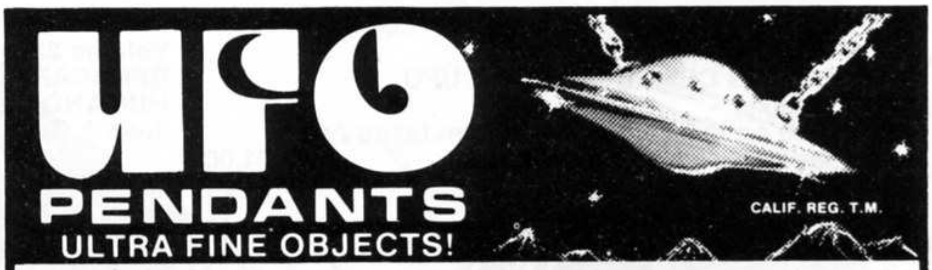

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